

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3829.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1901.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—The NINTH MEETING of the SESSION will be held at 32, SACKVILLE STREET, W., on WEDNESDAY NEXT, March 20. Chair to be taken at 8 P.M., when Antiquities will be exhibited, and the following Paper read:—“Chaucer as an Illustrator of Medieval England,” by Rev. W. S. LACH-SZTERMA, M.A.
GEORGE PATRICK, A.R.L.R. } Hon.
Rev. H. J. DUKINFELD ASTLEY, M.A. } Secs.

THE FOLK-LORE SOCIETY.—A JOINT MEETING of the FOLK-LORE SOCIETY and ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE will be held at 22, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, on WEDNESDAY, March 20, at 8 P.M., when a Paper, entitled “The Legend of the Sand Rope, and other Fiddle Tasks” (N.C. 400-410, 1900), illustrated by Lantern Slides, will be read by Miss G. M. GODDEN, F.A.M.L.S., Secretary.
11, Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, March 12, 1901.

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By Order,
F. STEVENS, Clerk to the Council.
Beckenham, Kent, March 12, 1901.

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W. M. MACRETH, Clerk to the **GOVERNORS**.
March 6, 1901.

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W. HEWITT, Hon. Secretary.
Municipal Offices, Liverpool, March 1, 1901.

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4, Albany Place, Edinburgh, March 12, 1901.

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LITERATURE

History of the Commonwealth and Protectorate (1649-60).—Vol. III. 1654-6. By Samuel Rawson Gardiner. (Longmans & Co.)

THE present instalment of Dr. Gardiner's great work covers less than two years. It extends virtually only from the meeting of Cromwell's first Parliament in September, 1654, to Lockhart's mission to France in May, 1656. The period, too, comprised within these more than usually restricted limits does not contain anything quite so dramatic as, say, the evolution of the "Instrument of Government," the story of which was told in Dr. Gardiner's preceding volume. There is, however, interest of a deeper and more serious nature. The more striking incident of the establishment of the Protectorate is past. We are now called to a close and sober study of the actual working of the new constitution, to watch the internal life and the external fortunes of England under a rule which is in its character absolutely unique in our history. On the whole, one feels saddened by the perusal. It must surely have been wise divination which prompted Mr. Balfour to speak, as he recently did, of Cromwell as a pathetic figure in history, for the words sum up the volume before us. Is there, after all, a Sophoclean irony of fate? Do the gods mock us for their own amusement and our despoise?

Again and again Cromwell turned wistfully to the problem of rendering his own government constitutional, but it was only to find that problem insoluble. In his own eyes his government was not merely justified by God, but was also practically constitutional, more so by far than that particular form of Parliamentary government which was the opposing shibboleth. "I denied it again and again," he says, speaking of the Instrument,

"not complimentingly, as they also know, and as God knows. I confess, after many arguments, and after the letting of me know that I did not receive anything that put me into a higher capacity than I was in before, but that it limited me and bound my hands to act

nothing to the prejudice of the [three] nations without consent of a Council until the Parliament, and then limited by the Parliament as the Act of Government expresseth, I did accept it."

It is easy to understand what led Cromwell, with this constitutionalism in his mind, to break the Rump and hasten the decease of the Little Parliament. But it is not so easy to see why he failed to agree with his first Parliament. Without a belief in fatalism, we wonder if the modern reader will be wholly satisfied by the explanation which Dr. Gardiner attempts of this peculiarly difficult problem:—

"Nor can it be said that the quarrel was one to be appeased by the exercise of greater wisdom and moderation on either side. Just as the strife between the King and Parliament in 1642 was not susceptible of arbitration till time and circumstances had spread abroad the perception of the virtue of toleration, so, too, the strife between the Protector and Parliament in 1655 was not susceptible of arbitration till time and circumstances had spread abroad the perception that adoption or acceptance by the nation itself is the only lasting test of the value of constitutional checks. The claim of the House to sovereignty expressed in terms of finance rested on the totally false assumption that it could justly qualify itself as the people assembled in Parliament. What Oliver, on the other hand, demanded was to hold posterity in mortmain. Special powers for a special crisis Parliament was willing to grant, and the extent of these might have been settled without difficulty at a friendly conference. Oliver, with a strong man's pertinacity, was resolved to raise barriers against the encroachments of Parliament not only for his own lifetime, but during that of his successors. Never till death put an end to his strivings did he relinquish that ground. To speak of Oliver as an opportunist, changing his political attitude from year to year, if not from day to day, is to misjudge his character. In truth he was the heir and successor of Strafford—like Strafford throwing himself open to the charge of apostasy, and like Strafford shifting his instruments and his political combinations for the sake of the people, whom he aimed at governing for their best advantage. To him kingship, or Parliamentary authority, or the very Protectorate itself, were all one, if they conduced to that blessed end. That democracy would conduce to it was beyond the pale not only of Oliver's conceptions, but outside the region of thought of every politician of the day, with the exception of the Levellers."

Is there not just a possibility that part of this is over-subtle; that, in his estrangement from his first Parliament, Cromwell was in reality the victim or the tool of a faction, the so-called Court Party or Army Party, and that he let slip a most favourable opportunity of a working compromise with constitutionalism? For it is remarkable how submissive, how moderate, how open to compromise, this his first Parliament was. Over 300 members signed the Recognition when Oliver had locked the door of the House in their faces, and they subsequently showed hardly any resentment of the breach of privilege. When they sat down to consider the Instrument, they instinctively drifted to Article 24, which concerned the Protector's voice of veto over legislation. Cromwell's desires on this head were confined to four points. He desired a negative over all legislation touching (1) alterations of Government, (2) perpetuation of Parliament, (3) the command of the militia,

(4) liberty of conscience. The four points were conceded to him in advance in a compromise that was set on foot even as early as September 11th—that is, within a week of meeting, and before the forced subscription of recognition. And that the Parliament throughout respected this virtual understanding is clear, not only from the unnamed speech of November 9th, which is preserved to us in Goddard's 'Diary' (Burton, i. lxiv), but also from the course of the Parliament's debates. Let us take, for instance, the point of liberty of conscience. Cromwell is set forth as standing for this liberty, the Parliamentary majority as in spirit Presbyterian, and so desirous of restricting it. Shall we be pardoned if we say that we cannot find this distinctness of cleavage between Cromwell and the opposing Parliamentary majority? What did that Parliamentary majority do, or propose to do, in its legislation on this head? First of all, it emphatically recognized liberty of conscience to all, meaning, to the nation—or, to make our point clear, shall we say to laymen? This it did quite unequivocally by its vote of December 15th, 1654, giving the Protector a right of objection to legislation restricting tender consciences.

In the next place, as a matter of internal or domestic order or police, and not at all as a matter touching the fundamental principle of toleration itself, it provided against the abuse of this liberty by one layman to the civil injury of another. This it did by its concurrent vote of the same day that legislation touching atheism, blasphemy, damnable heresies to be enumerated, popery, prelacy, licentiousness, and profaneness, or, again, legislation touching publications against the public profession held forth, should not be subject to the Protector's negative. Now, if there was a difference here between the Protector and his Parliament, it was but small; for what did Cromwell do the moment Parliament was dissolved? He issued a proclamation on February 15th, 1654/5, for the protection of Christians in the quiet profession of religion against the disturbances of rude and unchristian preachers, vilifications, interruptions, whereby the liberty of the Gospel and the profession of religion was much dishonoured and abused. After referring specifically to Quakers, Ranters, and others, this proclamation of his concludes:—

"If in contempt hereof any persons shall presume to offend as aforesaid, we shall esteem them disturbers of the civil peace, and shall expect and do require all officers and ministers of justice to proceed against them accordingly."

This is surely not a proclamation for liberty of conscience, for liberty of conscience was already secured under the Instrument. It is a police regulation directed against Quakers, Ranters, and others. If, therefore, there was any difference between Cromwell and his Parliament on this point, it was only that the Parliament wished to define legislatively or enumerate the disorders to be repressed, while Cromwell ended by referring it in a rough-and-ready way to the justices. But is this difference fundamental? and can one assume that the Parliament which had in one breath voted complete toleration should in another breath show itself intolerant and bigoted?

May not the desire of Parliament have been the laudable one of simply defining or limiting the action of the justices to a code precise and formulated? and would such a code have been necessarily a persecuting one?

Thirdly, still in this same connexion, the Parliament wished to make some definite and comprehensive arrangement for the maintenance of the clergy. In doing so it was bound rigorously and of necessity to define some standard of ministerial fitness and conformity. If there was to be a Commonwealth Anglican Church establishment, then there must be a platform of uniformity for that establishment. The desire was to find some machinery more fitting and worthy of the Church of England than the Commissioners of Triers were for the work of testing ministerial fitness and uniformity. Do we need to add, by the way, that in using such a phrase as "the Church of England," we do it in the light of the simplest truth? The parochial clergy of England formed the Church of England under Cromwell just as much as the laity formed the nation. It matters no more in the one case than it does in the other that a novel form of government—Presbyterian in the one case, Republican in the other—had been erected over their heads. It was with the object of providing a platform of uniformity for this Church of England that Cromwell's first Parliament called together a new Assembly of Divines, and contemplated defining the fundamentals of belief. Now, if it is borne in mind that these fundamentals of belief, if elaborated, were to have been required only at the hands of clergymen applying for the intended State maintenance, and if it is further borne in mind that the work of drawing up these fundamentals was in the hands of the Independents under John Owen, can it ever be said that there is herein any taint of intolerance, or that the general axiom of liberty of conscience was imperilled? We think not; and so thinking, we are further than ever from understanding why and where it was that Cromwell differed and drifted away from his Parliament. Was it not so also in finance and the militia—the two other moot points of difference? for after the dissolution came did not the Protector try to adapt himself to their proposals and ideas on both these points?

Is it, therefore, that Cromwell was unfitted by temperament from ruling alongside a legislative body? Or was he in the hands of a faction of army officers? Or was he the sport of a mocking destiny? We cannot suggest a solution to the problem; we are only concerned with Dr. Gardiner's solution, and what we urge is not by way of impertinent animadversion. No other man living has the authority which he has to speak on this vexed question of Cromwell's character and motives. And indeed it is noticeable that as Dr. Gardiner nears the end of his lifelong task his pronouncements on that character and those motives acquire a firmer touch.

"The difference between the two men [Charles and Cromwell] lay, in the first place, in the support given by Charles to a system of external obedience and conformity, whereas Oliver strove for a system of the utmost practicable liberty in thought and belief; and in the second place, in Charles's habit of clinging to formal legality,

whilst Oliver, having an army at his back, preferred to break openly through the meshes of the law when they entangled his feet. Charles, when necessity arose or appeared to arise, fumbled over the knot of his destiny in his effort to unloose it; Oliver hacked at it with his sword. It may at least be set down to the Protector's credit that, when he sinned, he sinned boldly.....Charles I. in 1629, having the judges on his side, was driven to have recourse to external legality, thus setting at naught the spirit of the law whilst preserving his loyalty to its literal meaning. Oliver, a stronger and more daring character, broke through the meshes of the law, whilst preserving his loyalty to the spirit, if not always to the letter, of the New Constitution."

After Cromwell had broken with his Parliament—whether causelessly or not we must leave the reader of Dr. Gardiner's pages to judge—he had no reserve of force behind. Supply had not been granted, yet he was drifting into bankruptcy; the executive had not been strengthened, yet at no time did it stand in such need of strengthening. It is the indomitable energy with which the Protector met the difficulties of the situation that gives so vivid an interest to the period intervening between his first and his second Parliament. At the same time that period furnishes an object-lesson in the domestic work of a revolutionary Government. In all probability the portions of the present volume devoted to this aspect of the period will be found to possess an interest transcending even that of Cromwell's foreign policy, great as it is. The system of district government by major-generals was in operation from August, 1655; and of this we get a most minute and particular account, especially of the part it played in the promotion of moral order. The impression produced by this part of Dr. Gardiner's sober, lucid, masterly narrative is that the system was still, as before, a benevolent despotism needlessly gone astray. If Parliamentary supply had been available, there might have been no need to decimate the Royalists; *ergo*, no major-generals; *ergo*, no immature attempts suddenly to alter the moral tone of a whole nation. But it is impossible to summarize thus briefly the wealth of illustration here afforded on this question; students should look at the work itself.

In the chapter on the Cromwellian settlement of Ireland Dr. Gardiner is on ground on which he feels strongly as a man, and the glow of the passion of his humanity appears even under the inexorable sobriety and calm of his history. All honour to him for it. Yet the story, circumstantial and exhaustive as ever, does not on the whole produce that sense of horror and shame which is traditionally associated with the incident. He shows convincingly not only that the general transplantation of the Irish was resisted and rendered impossible alike by the settlers and by the Irish themselves, but also that the central Government never after the first moment contemplated the possibility of its enforcement. It would have been interesting if Dr. Gardiner could have anticipated a little and rounded off this incident, for in a sense it stands apart and is capable of single treatment. The arrears of the soldiers remained in great part unliquidated at the Restoration, and their claims for lands strewed the Irish State Papers from that date onwards. But Dr.

Gardiner's historical method is as unbending and inexorable as is his devotion to his task; to both the reader can only bow in admiration.

The portions of the volume which are devoted to the foreign policy of the Protectorate comprise the attack on Hispaniola and Jamaica, the intervention on behalf of the Vaudois, and the proposed Protestant alliance of the Northern powers. The incidents combine to throw a light on Cromwell's character which is as novel as it is strong. They show how visionary, in spite of his intense and swift practical sense, he could be, how ignorant of the drift and motive of continental politics. They display, too, a want of versatility of mind which we should never have suspected in him. The expedition to Hispaniola was badly calculated from the first; there is something almost ominous in the exact parallelism of mismanagement which characterizes this episode and the attack on Cartagena in 1741. Land and sea forces at variance, absence of discipline, of command, of stores, of every reasonable provision, and as a consequence men dying like flies of disease—all this was not to be expected of the man who organized the eastern counties in the early Civil War. The single redeeming feature in the episode is the bulldog tenacity with which Cromwell held his grip of Jamaica when once it had been ignobly won. But what needless suffering was entailed in the process can only be gathered from these pages.

What is, however, more striking than the want of management and foresight which could send out a badly planned and badly equipped expedition is the curious style of Cromwell's diplomacy. Whilst openly attacking Spanish possessions in the Indies, he still believed that it was possible to continue at peace with Spain in Europe, and to maintain the game of diplomatic rivalry between Cardenas and Bordeaux, between Philip IV. and Mazarin. The belated protection which was afforded to the persecuted Vaudois was simply a card played in this game, and it was not so much Cromwell's card as Mazarin's. In a similar way the success of Lockhart's mission to France was due to nothing but the breach of Mazarin's own negotiations with Philip. The whole story of Cromwell's negotiations with these two powers, as revealed in these pages, is one of the most tortuous in English history. Oliver must surely have been mentally the most unfit man in the world for pure diplomacy. Certain truths he grasped firmly, such as the nature of English interests in the Indies and in the Baltic; some other truths he saw out of their true light and perspective, such as the permanent rivalries of the powers, or of the Protestant with the Catholic. But over all, alike over the dimly seen and the clearly seen truth, there was his own nearly fatal hesitancy, which seemed capable of resolution only in volcanic moments. The awe with which his mighty name inspired Europe must have been something inconceivable to-day, or England would surely have suffered at the hands of such diplomacy. In his dream, for instance, of a Northern alliance he proceeded on the mistaken belief that a general attack on Protestants was imminent. He completely misapprehended the internal

politics of the German empire. He either wilfully or ignorantly overlooked the deep-seated commercial rivalry between Sweden and the United Provinces. In the end it was only his (shall we say?) spasmodic common sense which made him see that the Swedes were aiming at a monopoly of the Baltic which would have been as injurious to English trade interests as to those of the Dutch. But what is a diplomacy worth which can only right itself by spasms? The whole story, told by Dr. Gardiner with circumstantial detail by the aid of Swedish dispatches, is as instructive as any in the whole career of Cromwell. Does it not, indeed, and this by way of return, throw a reflex light on his home government? Might not the man who could be thus tortuous in diplomacy be just as impracticable in his constitutional experiments at home? Might not the man who was capable of calling a Parliament of saints be capable of needlessly breaking with a Parliament which displayed at least some sense and some conciliation? And, if so, even whilst thinking that with the sword of the Lord he was hewing Satan's knots asunder, might he not have been wilfully forging that financial and executive *impasse* which finally overthrew his cause and his house?

But, as we have said, all of us who treat of this subject are readers merely. Dr. Gardiner has not read his subject; he has lived in it; the compass of it has been the compass of his own natural life. He has accompanied his hero through storm and stress, and then through mellowed manhood; and here in this volume there is for both hero and author the refulgent afterglow of later life and of a great achievement. If he does not understand Oliver Cromwell after growing up with him and living with him, which of us can pretend to do so? We bow once more at the thought of the service which Dr. Gardiner has done to his generation, and in admiration of the unflinching purpose to achieve and of the achievement itself.

The Romance of a Hundred Years. By Alfred Kingston. (Stock.)

SOME such book as this was expected, and had to be written; nor can it be said that Mr. Kingston's effort is devoid of interest. Perhaps he has worked the word "romance" rather hard—he merely means *contrast*; and the patchwork character of his narrative detracts a good deal from its effectiveness as literature. Nor does he often gratify our curiosity by indicating the block whence he has cut his quaint mosaic. He is perhaps unduly severe on the poor "official mind," which he admits was in the days of our grandfathers doing its best according to its lights; and his use of the imperative to round off his sentences is hardly so successful as was Carlyle's.

Most noticeable is the chapter called 'The Peasants' Rising after Waterloo.' The discontent aroused chiefly by low wages and the high price of provisions first showed itself in an attack on the Norwich flour-mills, but its most picturesque manifestations were in the Fen Country. At Downham, in Norfolk, on May 20th, 1816, a crowd of country people, numbering, it is said, some fifteen hundred, not only looted

the shops of the bakers, millers, and butchers, but even "went to the Crown Inn and drove the magistrates (who were holding their weekly sitting) from the rooms into the street, who with great difficulty succeeded in escaping." The Upwell troop of cavalry, however, arrived upon the scene and used the flats of their swords; and by next morning everything seemed at an end, after a meeting had taken place between the inhabitants and the rioters, resulting in an agreement for an advance of wages and the release of the men already captured. But the news of these doings having speedily reached Littleport, in the Isle of Ely, the local leaders rallied their forces at the public-house, whence they sallied forth in marching order, their standard-bearer, one Walker, carrying a long pole "with some printed stuff at the end of it, like a flag." Behind him were a mob "some 100 to 150 in number, some armed with pitchforks and crowbars, one with a butcher's cleaver." They refused the offers of the local farmers to raise wages and sell flour at 2s. 6d. a stone, or less, and exacted money from several houses, besides carrying away valuables of all sorts. Finally, having induced John Dennis, a publican and small farmer, to become their leader, they got together gunpowder and shot, with several old swivel-pieces and punt-guns, and mounted the latter, "deeply loaded," upon a waggon drawn by two horses. Inside the waggon, behind the rustic artillery, were placed the women: in this guise the procession moved on towards Ely, whither the fugitive parson of Littleport had carried the news of their approach. At sunrise a party of magistrates and clergy met the insurgents three-quarters of a mile outside the city. Demanding the reason of their disorderly conduct, they received the men's reply "that they came for redress from the magistrates. Wages at 2s. a day, flour at 2s. 6d. a stone" (and "beer at 2d. a pint," added a thirsty one in the crowd). They were told that their complaints should be examined by the overseers, for which purpose the magistrates entered into a sort of treaty with them and urged them to conduct themselves peaceably. They said they had not come "to hurt anybody," but when told they had much better go back home, they, "having little faith in the old arrangement, and staking all upon the issue, made answer that they 'might as well be hanged as starved'; and one Rutter, seeing the clergy-men, magistrates, and men of the law by their side, said 'they might if they pleased hang him up on the next thorn bush.'"

So they went on into Ely, where for some time they "exercised complete dominion," levying contributions of money, which was placed in the hands of the three leaders for systematic distribution among the three contingents from Littleport, Downham, and Ely. The Ely men deserted, and the others fled homewards before soldiers and volunteers reached the cathedral city; but at Littleport, ere the arrest of seventy-three raiders put a period to the rising, a struggle took place in which one of the rioters was killed and another wounded, while one of the 18th Dragoons, who had been at Waterloo and had passed unscathed through many other engagements, lost an arm. Five men suffered death and nineteen

others slighter sentences as the result of what its narrator describes as "one of the saddest little tragedies in fustian which the sorrows of Arcady have ever compassed." We are not so sure as the author about Arcady's having "its heart in the right place" when it could extort notes from a defenceless village shopkeeper by flourishing a butcher's cleaver over her head, though it is doubtless gratifying to hear of the raiders sparing a farmer when his son was dying, and leaving his house untouched "with some expression of sympathy for the sorrowing father."

In the days of which Mr. Kingston treats highway robbery had passed its prime, and the most interesting feature of the career of John Morris here noticed seems to us the fact of his having varied his professional pursuits on the king's highway by serving in five regiments (three of foot and two of horse) and on board seven men-of-war, taking part in three naval battles. In this connexion, however, the following naïve excerpt may be quoted from the diary of Farmer Carrington of Hertfordshire:—

"Sunday, 17th August [1806]. Not to church, as being lame—as rung of ladder broke and hurt my leg—but to Tewin in the evening to take money of Insome, the sack carrier, for wheat sold yesterday. Spent there with him and Jos. Lowin in gin and water 2s., but was robbed as I came home by two Irishmen; they clapt a pistol to my head. I told them my puss [*sic*] was in my waistcoat pocket, which they took.....they said I had more money. I told them I had no more in very loud terms.....so off they went. I run and hollowed down to Marden. So I escaped with my other money, nearly 20l., in a little pocket in the lining of my coat.....so my loss was small, about 4s. in my puss."

In his chapter on the "Romance of Old Country Life" Mr. Kingston draws freely upon the 'Diary of a Resurrectionist' to illustrate the long-extinct horrors of body-snatching. The subjoined notes are business-like, if gruesome, in tone:—

"Got four, was stopped by patrols. Butler, horse and cart taken, Butler bailed. Got seven large and three small.....took two over to St. Guy's [*sic*]. On hand two large and three small, home in a coach.....The moon at full, could not go.....Came home to Ben, settled 14l. 6s. 2½d. each man—got up at two, me and Jack and Bill went to Bunhill Row and got three—received 3l. 3s. for adult—went to look out, came home, went to the play, came home to the Rockingham Arms, got drunk."

There is little novelty nowadays in election anecdotes of pre- or post-Reform times, but the Tory wit deserves passing notice who, having unwittingly refreshed himself at the wrong inn, and discovered, moreover, that the waiter was a Whig, paid him the reckoning with the remark, "There, sir, is the bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill."

We cannot linger over the "romance" of the railway, or even over semaphores and the wonders of their successor, the modern telegraph (over which our author waxes almost poetic), and the story of the Corn-Law agitation is an oft-told tale; but we cannot forbear to quote the sage prediction uttered in early days by our worthy contemporary the *Scotsman* as to the future of the adhesive postage stamp:—

"The plan of glueing small stamps to letters would involve an amount of trouble and incon-

venience which would inevitably lead to its speedy abandonment; as every man or woman in town or country who writes a letter once in six weeks or three months must have glue or gum-pot at his or her elbow. In how many cases would the stamp fall off or be rubbed off when the letters were tumbled into the mail-bags, and what is to follow then—a second payment of postage or squabbles with the letter-carrier?"

Mr. Kingston doubtless knows his Arcady and describes it faithfully enough (we can vouch for his East Anglian dialect), but we cannot say that he has made the most of his chances here. Who requires to be told that life inside a cottage "can never be of the drawing-room type" and is sometimes "morally depressing"; or that "the politics of Arcady in the past could not have impressed the philosopher very favourably"? "Foreley" as the original of the word "folly" when applied to buildings (or premises?) in the country is new to us; the word might have appeared with advantage in the index. The author writes "atribilious" and "domine," and misspells the Warden of Merton's name as "Broderick." His style reaches a certain degree of fluency which is common and wholly without distinction. The illustrations are crude, or (shall we say?) unpretending. On the whole, we may thank him for a book of some interest: it is not the book we want, but it may suggest to others the writing of a better.

Algernon Charles Swinburne: a Study. By Theodore Wratislaw. (Greening & Co.)

THE widely circulated paragraph in which this little book was described as a biography of Mr. Swinburne—and, moreover, a biography clothed with authority—must, we fear, have somewhat damaged it with the public. The misstatement seems to have been the result of an error on the part of the publishers, and may well be passed over; but, as the fact is notorious that no authoritative biography of Mr. Swinburne is likely to appear during his life, no one was surprised to learn that another paragraph had been issued by the publishers contradicting the previous one.

The book is not a biography. The author admits at the outset that "of the personality and life of the poet little is known," and he adds nothing to our knowledge. But he has one merit: his admiration for Mr. Swinburne, if uncritical, is sincere. "Assuredly," said Coleridge, "that criticism of Shakspeare will alone be genial which is reverential." Coleridge did not foresee that resurgence of cynicism which has relegated reverence to the lumber-room of letters, and has made Shakspeare himself the butt of the literary buffoon. Mr. Wratislaw's reverence for the last great poet that time has left us endows much of his criticism with that geniality which covers a multitude of sins. His careful chronological survey of Mr. Swinburne's works may be useful to the general reader. The desultory dicta in his running commentary are sometimes sound, though seldom searching. He is too fond of nebulous rhetoric, and though he freely uses the jargon of eulogy, his praise is likely to be embarrassing to its object, unreasoned praise being harder to bear than unreasoned blame. For instance, he says

that "the last eighteen pages" of *'Atalanta in Calydon'* are "as musical as Shelley, as noble as Sophocles, as pathetic as Shakspeare." Whatever poetry may be, criticism is not an affair of adjectives, and epithets thus used are either meaningless or misleading.

Again, although he rightly praises *'Chastelard'*, he wrongly classes it with the metrical pyrotechnics in the first series of *'Poems and Ballads'*. *'Chastelard'* has nothing in common with the artificial bravado of *'Dolores'*. Its place is with, but far below, *'Tristram of Lyonesse'*. *Chastelard's* passion for Mary Stuart is not the desiccated sentiment of an idealist, but it is nevertheless a real phase of love. It is true that "with other poets love tends farther towards sentiment," but that fact heightens the value of Mr. Swinburne's independent reading of love. In his poetry love is a passion touched more or less by sentiment; in Shakspeare and most English poets love is a sentiment touched more or less by passion. Both readings have produced glorious poetry, but it must be admitted that until Mr. Swinburne wrote *'Tristram of Lyonesse'* English literature was singularly poor in erotic poetry. Mr. Wratislaw thinks that Wagner's *'Tristan'* is finer than Mr. Swinburne's *'Tristram'*. Why compare incomparable things? He might as well say that Mr. Meredith is finer than the middle of next week. Then he tells us that the *'Poems and Ballads'* "could only be applauded worthily by a writer not much over twenty," as "after twenty one has other things to think of." Older critics will grudge early manhood the monopoly of such poems as *'The Triumph of Time'*, *'Itylus'*, "Let us go hence, my songs," *'The Hymn to Proserpine'*, and *'The Song in Time of Order'*. And are the *'Songs before Sunrise'* really "somewhat cold"? What about *'Tiresias'*? what about *'The Eve of Revolution'*? and what about *'Cor Cordium'*?

It would be unkind to deal seriously with the section of the book devoted to Mr. Swinburne's prose, in which this sentence is rashly selected for censure: "The signal characteristic of Hamlet's inmost nature is by no means irresolution, or hesitation, or any form of weakness, but rather the strong conflux of contending forces." "This," says Mr. Wratislaw, "is a curious slip of the pen.... a strong conflux of contending forces cannot be a characteristic of any one's nature." That flourish of the ferule hardly prepares us for a "slip of the pen" like this: "Nor can it be said that in the poem is the blood kindled and the ears enthralled as they are...." It is a pity that his sorrow over "phrases... which are not worth the publicity of print" does not prevent him from dilating on the "exasperating" character of "Radical newspapers," or from describing Gladstone as "the demagogue whose energies were devoted to the internal disruption of Great Britain and to the external dishonour of her name." After such explosions it is delightful to find our critic suggesting that Mr. Swinburne should have "exercised a little more restraint upon his religious animosities." But Frenchmen alone can afford to smile at the caricature of France as "a withered and wrinkled harriard given to

screaming from toothless jaws incapable of biting." Yet these faults of taste are trifles beside the bludgeoning of Matthew Arnold. After learning that Arnold was "transformed by the combined atmosphere of Rugby and Oxford into the likeness of a perfect prig," we read that "the praise of Matthew Arnold was sufficient to damn Byron to all eternity." But Arnold is cudgelled in good company, for Mr. Wratislaw sneers at Scott, says that Ben Jonson, Bacon, and Landor are "dull," girds at Tennyson, and deprecates Mr. Swinburne's eulogy of Rossetti. It is the urbanity of his own style which emboldens him to protest against Mr. Swinburne's "verbal violence." It is his own austere sanity which leads him to rebuke the poet's "hysterical panegyric" of Tennyson's *'Rizpah'*, a poem so splendid that even Mr. Swinburne, the prince of panegyrists, could hardly overpraise it.

The book is carelessly bound, several pages being misplaced, and it is not free from misprints, *Erechtheus*, for example, being uniformly spelt "*Erectheus*."

The Little Red Book of Bristol. Edited for the Corporation by Francis B. Bickley. 2 vols. (Sotheran & Co.)

FOLLOWING the good example shown by the Corporations of Nottingham, Gloucester, and Leicester, the Council of the ancient city of Bristol has produced a sumptuous and very satisfactory edition of a muniment which possesses something more than a local reputation. To compare this volume or its companion register, the *'Great Red Book'*, with the famous precedent books of the London Guildhall is perhaps to overrate their historical importance, but they may certainly be awarded a high place amongst municipal registers which date back to the fourteenth century.

Mr. Bickley, who has edited the smaller of these volumes with skill and judgment, prepares us for some disappointment in respect of the disappearance of all records relating to the foreign trade of the city. It is certainly highly probable, as he has suggested, that "matters relating to foreign trade were regulated by a guild of merchants, the removal of whose early records from Bristol in the seventeenth century, and the subsequent failure to discover them, cannot be too greatly deplored." In support of this supposition one may recall the remarkable disappearance of the records of the Merchant Adventurers' Company, but at the same time it is scarcely credible that no references to this subject were contained amongst the city muniments. One would not, perhaps, have expected to find many notices in the two ancient precedent books which have survived, but these were doubtless not the only entry books that were at one time preserved.

The chief interest of the *'Little Red Book'* really consists in its preservation of the ancient ordinances of the city, together with those which relate to the craft guilds. The origin of the collection of city ordinances, which includes the greater portion of the contents of the first volume of this edition, can be clearly traced to the action of William de Colford, who was Recorder of Bristol in the year 1344. The revision of

the municipal ordinances was the work of the Common Council, which he called into existence for that purpose. From this date till the middle of the following century the most notable ordinances which concern the city appear to be entered in this book.

A striking feature of the Bristol precedent book is the collection of municipal oaths of office, perhaps the most complete of its kind in existence. Almost the whole of the second volume is occupied by the text of the guild ordinances above referred to. Mr. Bickley has taken pains to make the position of these ordinances clear. Like the city ordinances, they were brought together by William de Colford, and, after being revised by the Common Council, they were entered in this book at the request of the masters of the several crafts, who were content to "subordinate their private position as craft masters to their public duties as members of the Corporation," as Mr. Bickley well puts it. The ordinances themselves are in the usual form, and they refer to the trades carried on by seventeen craft guilds, one of these being that of the mariners of Bristol, whose constitution will repay a careful study.

Scattered among these civic and economic ordinances are several precedents of a very miscellaneous nature. Indeed, we venture to think that in every case it is more convenient to print the contents of a mediæval precedent book in such a way that the scattered entries relating to the same subject may be brought together in chronological order, though this arrangement might certainly be carried out, if preferred, in a table of contents.

We are able to agree with Mr. Bickley in almost all his conjectural readings, but cannot help regretting that he changed his first view as to the identity of the "Tundere" or "Toundrye" with the Counter or court of the Mayor. We think that it is fairly clear, from the context of the several passages in which the Tollseld and Tundry and the duties of its clerk are mentioned, that the reference is in each case to the Mayor's court and not to the Hundred. The explanation suggested by the editor of a corruption from "t' hundred," though ingenious, appears objectionable on philological grounds alone. A more probable derivation is perhaps to be found in an archaic reference to the office of "Tungerefa" (*præpositura*), unless indeed "Tundere" can be regarded as a mere corruption of "Counter." In any case, we do not think that the description of this court fits the jurisdiction of the Hundred as defined in the charter of Henry III.

Mention must be made of one other portion of the contents of this interesting muniment, the long and extremely valuable treatise on the law of the merchants, which Mr. Bickley very properly decided to print in the present edition, in spite of its general rather than local application. The discovery of this treatise is certainly important, and it is sure to receive further elucidation in future text-books of constitutional law. In the same connexion the Bristol Customal has preserved a copy of the 'Laws of Oleron' and the 'Assisa Panis.'

The Corporation of Bristol has evidently spared no cost in the production of this

valuable work, which is enriched by a number of plates and facsimiles of interesting manuscripts. An admirable index and a short glossary complete the share of the editor in these volumes. If editors as trustworthy as Mr. Bickley were always to be found, other corporations would perhaps be encouraged to print their records on a larger scale.

Counsels for Church People. From the Writings of the Right Hon. and Right Rev. Mandell Creighton, sometime Bishop of London. Selected and arranged by J. H. Burn, B.D. (Stock.)

THE only quarrel we have with this book concerns its title. Dr. Creighton's sympathies were so wide that this selection ought to have a public far larger than that of Church people, although there is no doubt (and these pages prove it) as to the reality of the bishop's churchmanship. For the rest, we can only congratulate Mr. Burn. The extracts are well chosen, well arranged, and well indexed, and the volume is thoroughly representative of the writer's thought and tone, although it is hardly what most would regard as "devotional literature." At any rate, it is devotional with a difference, for it lacks at once the narrowness of outlook and the sentimentality of treatment which are too often connoted by that phrase. It is both attractive and stimulating. Its teaching, inspired throughout by that spirit of mingled courage and moderation which was eminently characteristic of the late bishop, should be a wholesome corrective to the influences which lead men to see one point of view to the exclusion of others, to think they are tolerant because they are indifferent, or that they may be wrong-headed merely because they are earnest. This book is essentially human in sympathy; it is as universal in its scope as it is Christian in method and principle. It is the utterance of a man speaking from the depth of his own experience. The sneer (ridiculous to those who knew the bishop) that he was merely a worldly ecclesiastic with cultivated tastes as a cynical epigrammatist ought to receive its *coup de grâce* with the popularity which will, we hope, attend this publication of his more intimate thoughts. If it is necessary to illustrate this, the following passage may serve:—

"The answers to the question, 'What is man?' are incomplete unless they attempt to solve it in union with that further question, 'What is God?' And the claim of the Christian religion upon the minds of men rests ultimately upon this, that it enables the answer to these two questions to be carried into every detail of human life and experience.....Christianity—let me put it so—is eminently a religion of common sense.....'What is man?' Jesus Christ Himself is the answer. He alone explains the possibilities of man's nature and man's life; nay, that life and nature He not only explains, but is ready to give."

The thought that the fundamental meaning of Christianity is to be sought, not in the Church or the creeds as the scheme of redemption, but in a personality, recurs throughout the book, and is clearly at the root of Creighton's conception of his religion. United with this is his beautiful picture of the education of children as a

symbol of the religious education of the race:—

"The chief moral quality exhibited in the parental relation is that of forgiveness.....God's revelation of Himself gives back to us in varied forms, what our own experience might set forth to each, that the joy of pardon is a joy which is in the being of God. The joy of receiving pardon is but a faint reflex of the joy of Him who gives."

But the bishop will bind himself to no theory: "No doctrine, no conception of the Atonement, can explain to us the Cross of Christ"; for no one had to a greater degree the power to distinguish fundamental principles from the temporary forms in which the intellect of one age or another enshrines them. It is this capacity which marks the gulf between the deep thinker and the arid scholastic.

Still it is not only, or even mainly, as affording evidence of the depth and width of Dr. Creighton's religion that this book is valuable. Its chief merit is that it serves in a sort to explain the extraordinary influence he came to exercise over English life. This is due to the fact that, with all his detachment and all his idealism, he was yet essentially English, with ever an eye to practical issues and an Englishman's sense of compromise and justice. He points out that "a regard for truth, a regard for liberty, and a regard for order" are characteristic of the average Englishman at his best, and in a like degree of the English Church, and

"the English character is more closely connected with the character of the English Church than English people ordinarily think, and the English Church more clearly expresses the ideal aspiration of the English people than the English Church knows."

Now these qualities are remarkably embodied in this little book, and render it truly representative of that "sweet reasonableness" which since the days of Hooker it has been the aim of the most typical English Churchmen to preserve. The first comes out in the stress laid on the paramount duty of politicians to be honest, and not to palter with their consciences for the sake of votes; and on the like duty of condemning the actions of the Church where they are unjustifiable. It animates further the whole section on 'Christianity and Commonsense,' in which, while every possible allowance is made for the duty of making religion practical and not merely "other-worldly," it is pointed out that Christianity can never be made to conform to the world's standard of immediate utility, for its work is to bear witness to the truth. "It is possible to make doctrine easy of acceptance by depriving it of all meaning." "It is easy for an individual to gain a character for Christian zeal by exclusive devotion to the popular form of philanthropy."

The love of liberty inspires the numerous appeals to the will. The whole book is individualistic in the stress laid on the importance of effort to grasp truth or righteousness or anything at all, and in the large allowance made for inevitable differences of view and method, even in regard to fundamental matters. The superiority of man to circumstance is a frequent theme. In the same way a severe

judgment of intolerance is recorded. There is an illuminating description of the evils that befell the Christian Church when, accepting the alliance of the world, it attempted to work by power instead of influence, and to suppress heresy by coercion.

The sense of order is exhibited in the moderation of all statements, the evident dislike of violent breaches with the past, and the condemnation of anarchic self-will, whether in the ecclesiastical or the political sphere. This is illustrated a little more in the sections on sympathy. A dramatic picture of the effects of its being withheld from the young is presented, and an equally dramatic picture of the evils that ensue from a good-natured acquiescence in the craving of egotistical and hysterical natures for constant sympathy in purely imaginary sufferings. The bishop had clearly no sentiment to waste on megrims.

The book is a veritable treasury of wisdom, and so full of pithy sayings and of insight into human nature and its problems—social, political, individual, as well as religious—that it is impossible here to do more than indicate the main features. Its publication deepens our sense of debt to one who was a great Churchman because he was a great Englishman, uniting sobriety and caution to an eager and original intelligence, which worked freely upon all aspects of life. But it deepens also the sense of the loss sustained by the nation, now that we have no longer with us anything but the memory of a prelate whose brilliant gifts were only the least of his claims to our admiration.

NEW NOVELS.

That Sweet Enemy. By Katharine Tynan. (Constable & Co.)

IN Katharine Tynan's Irish stories the sunshine follows as closely upon the clouds that threaten tragedy as does the veritable sunshine upon the rain-cloud in Ireland itself. The moral atmosphere of 'That Sweet Enemy' is particularly soft and pleasant, and nowhere are the reader's emotions unduly harrowed or his intelligence unduly strained. The story, which is prettily told in the first person by the elder sister, is concerned with the ancient feud between the O'Doherties and the Dennistouns, who had bought the encumbered family acres from the reigning O'Doherty of a previous generation, and with the manner in which something more than a reconciliation is brought about in the present one. Sheila's conduct with regard to her lovers may be open to criticism, but the O'Doherties are as a whole well-mannered, cheerful young people. They and their friends behave so nicely to one another under all circumstances that, while redeemed by a healthy breeziness of tone from any reproach of dulness, their adventures afford quite pleasant and innocuous reading. The most interesting personality is that of "Aunt Theodosia," the belle of fifty years and more ago, whose passages with her still faithful lover Lord Innishowen are full of Irish wit and pathos. The trial of the Moonlighters, in which this same spirited and kindly old lady insists upon taking a part, to the discomfiture of the Crown Prosecutor, is very entertaining. Throughout the local colour is excellent.

The Lost Land. By Julia M. Crottie. (Fisher Unwin.)

MISS CROTTIE writes of Irish, too, and knows something of those "planes" of life which are neither Irish nor English; but in the effort to give artistic embodiment to her knowledge and experience she betrays the unpractised hand and shows an uncertain method. There is much that is haphazard, contradictory, and inartistic in 'The Lost Land.' Thus one of the characters in this story of the Ireland of the eighteenth century is an enthusiast found at the outset working heart and soul for the preservation of the Irish language; yet he is represented as telling "many a queer tale of 'joyant' and fairy in the 'ould ancient times.'" The notion of such ridiculous "English" on the lips of a Gaelic enthusiast is a theme for comedy. Nearly every one knows that much Gaelic idiom has passed into Anglo-Irish speech (if we may use that common but unhappy term); the talk in Miss Crottie's work has little or no suggestion of Gaelic imagery, delicacy, raciness, or intensity. Many Irish words are given, but the spelling used is unpardonable. While Latin and French phrases are recognizable, the Irish renderings, in obedience to the "phonetic" craze—or is it through want of knowledge?—are all as they ought not to be. The English dialogues are often turgid and unreal. Much of the book can only be a weariness to bilingual Irish readers, and a source of confusion to English people who wish to know the real Ireland. However, part of the truth is sometimes plainly suggested. For example, there is a glimpse of one order of priest that must ever be regarded as a deplorable, if unconscious, enemy to Ireland—and England. It is dangerous to generalize about the Irish priesthood, which has included, and includes, so many admirable types of spiritual leaders and guides. But Miss Crottie shows that unhappy type which was opposed to the language, culture, and ideals that touched the innermost fire and essence of the people—the type which frowned upon the things whose cultivation had ministered to legitimate pride of race, to the Irishman's spiritual *verve* and dignity as an individual. That type marred potential good Irishmen, and left them less than indifferent Englishmen. Miss Crottie, on the other hand, does not wholly forget the cultured and heartsome cleric that fought for the Gaelic heritage, though a friend also to English or European culture of the highest kind. That order is vital to-day, but, unlike Miss Crottie, it can write the Irish language properly.

The Sin of Jasper Standish. By Rita. (Constable & Co.)

MITA's latest story has plenty of incident, and a good deal of interest, but not much that can be spoken of as distinctive. The plot is centred in a gentleman villain—an Irish county inspector, with an over-refined nose, blue eyes, and full red lips, which would have told their own tale if a heavy black moustache had not conveniently put a gloss on their otherwise manifest significance. This Jasper Standish is a very dangerous and accomplished scoundrel, who takes in all the men and one of the women in the little town of Rathfurley which is the scene

of his machinations; but the young English heroine and her confederate are too many for him in the long run. There is murder in the book, and treachery, and crime of many different kinds, all acted out before the reader's eyes, so that the author relies more on her ingenuity in working out an inevitable result than on the creation of an atmosphere of mystery and suspense. It might have been better to keep the two strings for so tense a bow.

The Girl at the Halfway House: a Story of the Plains. By E. Hough. (Heinemann.)

"A BEAUTIFUL story beautifully told" would be a fairly accurate, but an unfairly brief description of the romance that forms the first issue of "The Dollar Library," which is to introduce English readers to new American fiction and an American method of publication. In Mr. Hough we have a recruit to the ranks of novelists who not only knows how to tell a story in an interesting fashion, but also possesses unusual powers as a writer. If the story which he tells were poor, which it is very far from being, the manner of its telling might suffice to charm those readers who have a liking for that most elusive of literary qualities, style. We are here made to realize in the most convincing way the migratory wave which set in in America after the Civil War; to feel the irresistibility of its quiet force working on all sorts and conditions of men, even as we are made to feel by De Quincey the terrible flight of the Kalmuck Tartars—two migrations differing no less widely in their origins than in their objects, the one a question of instinct, if we may say so, the other a question of policy. Mr. Hough's hero is a young captain in the United States army, who on the conclusion of the war shared in the widespread feeling of unrest that urged so many thousands of families to seek new homes in the Far West. We meet him in 'The Day of War'; we follow him as one of the pioneers who helped to shorten 'The Day of the Buffalo,' and as he prospers, materially in 'The Day of the Cattle,' and generally in 'The Day of the Plough.' We are really interested in the course of his love, but even more strongly attracted and interested in the presentation of the very life of the growing West, realizing at once the savage fascination of the earliest lawlessness and the resistless march of "law and order." Characterization, style, and atmosphere are alike excellent.

Two Sides of a Question. By May Sinclair. (Constable & Co.)

MISS MAY SINCLAIR'S 'Two Sides of a Question' belongs to a high order of imaginative fiction, based on the essential realities of life: not the life of action and accident, but rather the centripetal and psychic life of independent womanhood. In 'The Cosmopolitan' and 'Superseded,' the two distinct stories which make up Miss Sinclair's volume, we have two facets of the many-sided question by which all pure and reflective women find themselves confronted when they are constrained to think out the meaning of their solitary lives. The

heroines differ enormously in mental equipment and physical energy, but they are alike in their initial restraint and narrowing conditions, in their suppressed yearning for an ampler existence, and in their half-conscious groping for a tangible something beyond. The characterization in each case is admirably clear and delicate; the two women are genuine portraits, whether direct from sitter to canvas or composite studies on the basis of an ideal. Both are absolutely convincing—the woman of fortune, who flees from imaginary duties to satisfy a craving for travel; and the spiritless teacher, who has put by a pound a year for a quarter of a century: the soul of the swallow and the soul of the dove. For many readers, and perhaps for the readers best worth having, these excellent stories will be inspiring as well as convincing. Miss Sinclair has made no strain for the kind of attraction which is supposed to command the largest market; but she has done good work, which can at least be crowned by recognition.

According to Plato. By Frankfort Moore. (Hutchinson & Co.)

THIS latest of Mr. Moore's stories shows carelessness and want of arrangement. But it is so bright and sparkling, such a delicious record of the fads and follies of the time, that we cannot be annoyed with him. He must be forgiven for his two charming girls and his pleasingly incisive comments on the novel of to-day, which are introduced in a School for writing fiction. His philosophic maiden who is always trying experiments in Platonic affection (so called) is delightful; but we shall expect more care in details the next time Mr. Moore writes, though we are inclined to forget such shortcomings if his epigrams and inversions keep up their present attractiveness.

Naomi's Exodus. By Lily H. Montagu. (Fisher Unwin.)

THIS is a charming little story, which, though professedly about Jewish life, would equally apply to any other creed. It shows how a girl, suddenly waking up from the intellectual and moral torpor of a stupid formalism, thinks that the only way of attaining to something better is by brutally breaking off all her old ties. The experiment is successful, for the knowledge she gains by suffering and labour brings her back with warmer love to her old duties and affections. There are some interesting sketches of character in the book, drawn perhaps in rather crude colours, which, however, are not out of keeping with the short, direct manner of the narrative. Miss Montagu has reason to be proud of what, we believe, is her first book.

The Mayor of Littlejoy. By Fred. C. Smale. (Ward, Lock & Co.)

IN one of his comic operas Mr. W. S. Gilbert introduces us to a grown man, son of a perennially youthful fairy, and "to have a mother younger than oneself is rather curious." Mr. Smale has taken the same idea for his "faithful narrative" of the Mayor of Littlejoy, who found himself embarrassed by the arrival of a "grandmother," a couple of centuries or so old, in the form of a beautiful

and apparently young woman. She is a powerful fairy, and the consequence is a series of extravagantly ridiculous scenes. Mr. Smale has written a book which may be called mirth-provoking, and this despite the fact that his style is poor and his grammar not infrequently weak.

The Master Passion. By Bessie Hatton. (Pearson.)

MISS HATTON keeps too close to convention to be satisfactory. We have the passionate daughter of a consumptive artist and his Italian wife left to the care of a "nagging" and wholly unsympathetic aunt, and her consequent trials. The best part of the story is that describing Dolores's stay in a Normandy convent; but matters soon return to the melodramatic. There is a doctor for whom she conceives a violent love; and the love is returned, although he is secretly married to an actress. True to the story-writer's convention, the wife who is in the way is killed off, and Dolores, on the eve of a loveless marriage, breaks her troth that she may wed the doctor. Incidentally a river "ambles," and in Scotland the heroine hears love "trilled from a score of nightingales' throats." Most bird-lovers who have heard this bird as far north as Yorkshire have considered themselves fortunate.

Days of Doubt. By Alice Maud Meadows. (Ward, Lock & Co.)

THIS is a wild story of a man and his "double." Miss Meadows's style of writing is so careless (the hero and heroine had "very few friends, less relations, and no parents either of them"), and her invention is shown to be so limited by the necessity of introducing coincidences at every turn, that it is impossible to feel any interest in her highly sensational romance. A hero who "gushes" to his laundress over his approaching marriage is both stupid and unreal; and one may say the same of a pedestrian and a policeman who kick at a man lying with concussion of the brain in Fleet Street because they think that he may be drunk.

FRENCH LITERATURE.

Dianne de Poytiers, Duchesse de Valentinois, by Marie Hay (J. & E. Bumpus), is a very pretty volume for the drawing-room table. Among its numerous and beautifully executed illustrations those of sixteenth-century book-binding are perhaps the most interesting. The historical value of the book is less apparent, whilst its chronology is dubious. If Diane de Poitiers (we prefer the more modern and usual orthography) was born in 1490, as is usually believed, she was more than thirteen on her marriage in 1515. We are told on p. 10 that "the death of François I. took place in 1549, and Dianne had been created Duchesse de Valentinois in 1548," or, according to p. 30, in 1547. Now 1548 is the correct date so far as the title is concerned, but Henri II. was the donor of it. She would never have obtained it from his predecessor, who, till his decease in March, 1547, was under the influence of the Duchesse d'Estampes, Diane's bitter foe. Again, having given on p. 22 1547 as the year of the accession of Henri II., Miss Hay must needs, in the list of errata, alter this correct date into 1549. Diane died, as is here stated, in 1566, but she could hardly have solaced her later years by

"reading the essays of Montaigne," for he did not begin to write them till towards 1572, the first edition appearing in 1580. Somewhat vague is the statement that "Henri granted [Diane] the entire revenue paid to him at his accession by the officers of the Crown, judges, and high dignitaries"; what he actually gave her was the "droit de confirmation," or fees which all office-holders were obliged to pay on the accession of a new monarch in order to be confirmed in their appointments. Considering how many "Rues des Estuves" figure in sixteenth-century maps and descriptions of Paris, we think that bathing was not so unknown a luxury as our author imagines. Miss Hay tells us that, during the rifling of tombs by revolutionary mobs in 1795, the remains of two little girls were found in the same coffin which held the body of Diane. She suggests that they were the daughters of her heroine. Considering how long an interval must have elapsed between the deaths of the children and that of the mother, this theory would involve most revolting details.

La Noblesse Française sous Richelieu. Par le Vicomte G. d'Avenel. (Paris, Armand Colin.)—"Il n'y a point de prince," said Richelieu, "qui prenne plaisir de voir dans son état une grande puissance qu'il pense n'avoir pas élevée et qu'il croit être indépendante de la sienne." This political opinion, coupled with his mystic devotion to the crown, was the prime cause of the Cardinal's lifelong and victorious struggle with the nobles. Before him, the latter swore allegiance to the king; after him, they were to swear obedience. Aristocratic power depending mainly on the feudal sword, the decline of brutal force marks the overthrow of the aristocracy. This result was due to the joint action of Richelieu's ministry and of public opinion: "cedant arma togæ.....et argento!" Hence, coinciding with the political downfall of the "noblesse d'épée," the rising influence of the "noblesse de robe et de plume." The severest blow was dealt by the growth of movable or personal property, as opposed to feudal land property, which it gradually superseded. The land revenue, whence the nobility derived its sole income, was thus considerably reduced; expenses, on the other hand, grew ever heavier. Far less important was the suppression or restriction of feudal privileges—for instance, the right of private justice; of these, some were merely honorary, others most onerous duties. Hunting and contempt of law were the only monopolies of the great.

More interesting even than the author's political and economic survey is his social picture of the French Court under Louis XIII., his predecessors and successors. Until this reign the kings of France were only regarded as the first of the gentry, *primi inter primos*. This paternal government accounts for the loose language and etiquette then in use: "le monde" was exclusively confined to the Court circles, and careers were limited to the Church and army, civil functions and industrial professions being alike held in contempt. We need not be astonished if, at the military academies, fencing and dancing were practised at the expense of law or ethics. The young nobleman entered the world at the age of fifteen or sixteen—if poor, as a private; if rich, as a volunteer. Marriage was nothing but the alliance, often precocious, of two families; the record of cassation and nullity is scarcely surpassed by that of modern divorce, whilst legitimization was generally followed by ennoblement. Birthright acted as a safeguard for the nobility, the right of escheat as a safeguard for the country. Picturesquely entertaining is the officious sale of livings and dignities, a shameless traffic from which the king and ministers did not stand aloof. Men of letters vegetated in an honourable dependence. Stables, banquets, dress, gambling, and amateur ballets were

indispensable luxuries. The expenses of the Church were also large: "In that holy beehive the moths [i.e., the lay or clerical holders of bishoprics and benefices] ate nearly all." Episcopal and canonical babies proved a productive source of income. To the literary salons we owe the extreme politeness of the fashionable world, but preciosity often sided with *gros mots*. To love and be loved was considered the true life, and that love was often Platonic. Neither politeness nor edicts, however, could put a stop to duelling, of which institution the author appears as an apologist. In the meantime the slow invasion and growing power of the *bourgeois* financiers led to incredible venality and confusion of titles. The author does not conclude his work—which is both attractively written and soundly based on fact—by any definite appreciation of the *régime* of Richelieu.

Souvenirs du Cte. A. de La Ferronnays (1777-1814). Par le Mis. Costa de Beauregard. (Paris, Plon, Nourrit & Cie.)—The success which attended long ago Mrs. A. Craven's 'Le Récit d'une Sœur' will probably ensure a larger circulation than is deserved for this memoir of the parents of that lady and of the saintly hero of her somewhat morbid record. For it must be confessed that the early impressions of the Comtesse de la Ferronnays, née Montsoreau, are curiously uninteresting, whether during the emigration she and her family sojourn at the Duke of Brunswick's Court, or follow Condé's headquarters into Poland, or accompany on its march to and retreat from Venice that "régiment de Berry," on the roll of which she and her sister were found inscribed when the corps became subsidized by the British Government. Equally valueless is her reproduction of some of the reminiscences of her husband, whose forlorn and poverty-stricken youth was also spent in Condé's army. Presently he was attached as mentor to the Duc de Berry, for whom and sometimes with whom he undertook various expeditions, thus obtaining ample opportunity for appreciating the churlish, dissolute, and selfish character of that prince. In 1813 the exiled Louis XVIII. was inspired with the idea of marrying this hopeful nephew to the Russian Archduchess Anne, for whose hand Napoleon had vainly sued; and La Ferronnays was consequently sent on a wild-goose chase, first to Stockholm to try to convert Bernadotte to Bourbon interests, then to St. Petersburg, and yet again to Dresden on a useless effort to get the proposed match sanctioned by personal appeal to Alexander, who was at that very moment engaged in the battle of Lützen. For the mortifications La Ferronnays endured on this and similar occasions he was compensated when after the Restoration he was appointed to represent the French monarchy at the Russian Court. M. de Beauregard has edited the volume most carelessly. We are told the departure of M. de Montsoreau took place at the end of 1791, and thus "only preceded that of the king by a few weeks"; but the flight of Varennes thus referred to was on June 20th, 1791. The Duchess of Brunswick, who was aunt to George IV., is mentioned as his sister, which relationship does not prevent her daughter being rightly named as his wife. Pitt died in January, 1806; we are here told that he was alive when Louis XVIII. landed in England in October, 1807. The arrest of English travellers in France decreed in May, 1803, is by our author made subsequent to the death of the Duc d'Enghien, March, 1804. We learn that Count d'Armfeld was born in 1757, and signed the Peace of Varena in 1750. On one page La Ferronnays anchors off Gothenburg on September 27th, though on the preceding leaf he did not come within view of that port till the 28th. Sir G. Lee appears as "See," Cathcart as "Cathiard," Gosford as

"Gosford." Historical events, as, for instance, Sir John Moore's expedition to Sweden in 1808, are described in a most confused fashion. We believe that the English Government allowed Louis XVIII. during his exile in this country 24,000*l.* a year. Whilst this circumstance is ignored, complaints of the lack of consideration he experienced are numerous.

SHORT STORIES.

Street Dust. By Ouida. (White & Co.)—The stories in Ouida's latest volume are very much what she has taught us to expect from her when she writes about Italian peasant life. We find a brutal and ignorant population tyrannized over by equally brutal officials, vice and superstition everywhere rampant, a clergy (in "cossacks") well-meaning, but helpless—in short, everything at the worst in the worst of all possible states. If Ouida draws her stories from personal observation, how is it that the universal misgovernment which pervades official life to its very smallest ramifications, and the utter degradation of the governed, have escaped the notice, so far as we are aware, of all other foreigners—and they are not a few—resident in the country? Mr. Carmichael, for instance, whose book we reviewed the other day, gives a very different picture. If, on the other hand, she imagines them, we do not envy her her imagination in its present phase. The gorgeous guardsman, drinking curaçao, and shooting partridges with an Enfield rifle, was, we suspect, as typical a personage as the "communal guard" who beats little girls with his scabbard, and certainly more exhilarating.

The Monster, and other Stories. By Stephen Crane. (Harper & Brothers.)—This book seems somewhat disappointing. Each of the stories in it is well told, and in a degree they are interesting; but nearly every one of them leaves the reader untouched. What chiefly strikes us about these stories is that they appear to be studies in narrative rather than narratives told for the sake of the stories themselves: thus there is something a little artificial about them. 'The Monster,' for example, a fine and pathetic tale in some ways, does not seem as if it had ever really occurred; it reads rather like a study in abstract emotions. So too with 'The Blue Hotel'; it is a brilliant fulguration, but still a bolt from the blue. The best stories, the most natural and the most real, appear to us to be the last two, 'Manacled' and 'An Illusion in Red and White.' The last especially is very good; perhaps the reason of this is that the incident is adduced rather as an oddity in psychology, so that the cold and impersonal way in which the tragedy is treated becomes comparatively unimportant, while the scientific aspect absorbs all the interest.

What May Happen: Stories Natural and Supernatural. By Beatrice Heron Maxwell. (Francis Griffiths.)—As the merit of these stories may be estimated as natural *versus* supernatural, the natural has it. The first story, and not the best, gives its name to the volume. It is not exactly supernatural, however. Scientific suicide is the motive; but there is nothing thrilling or remarkable, and that fact in such material spells failure. 'A Bit of Diplomacy' is a better thing altogether, light in touch, and with the character and interest the other lacks. There are more stories of various kinds, some notable in their way.

The Tapu of Banderah, &c. By Louis Becke and Walter Jeffery. (Pearson.)—There is little to say of these stories, except that they are just as good as those which usually come from these authors, and this means that of their sort they could hardly be better. If a distinction is to be made, the best perhaps are those about the natives and life in the South Sea islands, where it would not be rash to

discover Mr. Becke's hand especially. The knowledge on these matters of those who have read Mr. Becke's former stories can hardly be added to, but the fresh stories come as welcome news about old friends. The semi-historical tales about English and American adventurers in these seas are also extremely interesting; and the one story about Australian life on the mainland, though not much as a story, is excellent for the vividness with which a real Australian drought is presented.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

Riding and Hunting, by Capt. Horace Hayes (Hurst & Blackett), is a large, handsome, well-printed, profusely illustrated volume. One would have thought that there was nothing unfamiliar to the author concerning the horse, especially the riding-horse, and that the gallant gentleman in his many previous works, all brimful of personal experience and useful information, had exhausted his subject, if not himself. But it was not so. Strange to say, with all his knowledge, acquired in all parts of the world, in nearly all the branches of equestrianism, he to whom military riding, steeplechasing, flat-racing, pig-sticking, road-riding, park-riding, and so on, were perhaps even more familiar than his alphabet, and to whom no horse, from the quiet hack to the obstreperous Australasian buck-jumper, came amiss in the way of sport or of business, did not begin until the year 1892 or thereabouts to apply his mind seriously to English hunting. Even now he is modest enough to declare himself to be little more than the pupil of his friend Capt. King-King, to whom he ascribes any merit that may belong to the hunting section of his book. The work is not altogether new, having been adapted, to the extent of about a fourth and with a change of title, from a former called 'Riding on the Flat and Across Country.'

Nothing is too elementary, nothing too minute, for the author's handling, and the number of illustrations is extraordinary. But when we observe that the counterfeit presentment of a strap or a nose-band is counted as an illustration, and that there are no fewer than sixteen separate plates illustrating "phases of the gallop," such as no mortal ever dreamed a horse—out of a toyshop—could exhibit, we cease to be surprised at the total achieved. It will be assumed from what has been said that the work appeals chiefly to those enthusiasts who, if they do not attend personally to their horses, stables, and harness-rooms, like at any rate to be able to do so at need, and to understand everything connected with the accoutrement of a horse, from head-stall to crupper. General readers will, however, be glad to learn, on the authority of Capt. Hayes, that there is little or no ground for the popular belief that to become a good rider it is absolutely necessary to have begun in childhood, though they are pretty sure to find the book so laden with technical detail as to be uninteresting and even tedious for the most part. They will turn for relief to the pages in which the author has something to say about American riding on the racecourse, about that "crouching seat" which of late has not only given rise to hot discussion, but led to an almost complete revolution in the style of riding, and was supposed, not without reason, but not with certainty, to have accounted for the somewhat humiliating fact that an American jockey was more successful last season than any one of our far more numerous native riders. As regards this question of the "seat," Capt. Hayes is superficial and not at all satisfactory. He does not insist sufficiently upon the certainty that the "crouching seat" gives such increase of speed as it does at the risk of breaking down the overlaid forehead (as may have happened in the case of Holcauste the year before last and of Maluma last year), and that

the improvement, such as it is, in point of speed, plainly does not affect the horse's innate powers. The "crouching seat," it is as plain as the nose on Cyrano de Bergerac's face, can give no advantage unless some of the antagonists adopt a different style; and indeed in a modified form it is no new thing among English jockeys, as the author admits, and as Sir Walter Scott in 'Quentin Durward' bears witness. Hideous to look at and dangerous, as well as useless, except in unusual cases, it may well go out of fashion by degrees, just as it came into vogue, when Sloan and the Reiffs and "Skeets" Martin, having their undoubted skill seconded by more favourable "mounts," were enabled to accomplish more than their predecessor, the original "croucher" in this country, the discredited W. Simms, though even he had one or two successes.

In his preface to *Kings of the Rod, Rifle, and Gun* (Hutchinson & Co.) "Thormanby" tells us that he is "but a gatherer and disposer of other men's stuff," the humble purveyor to the general reader, whom he hopes to please. The description will not be contested by those familiar with the works so freely laid under contribution. Still there are doubtless many unacquainted with them, for whom this compilation will prove attractive. Beyond this there is little to be said about the two handsome volumes before us. The selection of "kings" is no doubt open to question; but if it be realized that only such as left easily attainable records of their performances were available, then no exception need be taken, unless it be that too many are included. The author is very severe on Izaak Walton for plagiarism, credulity, and superstition—all very reprehensible, but how common! and it may be that some present beliefs, if examined, would stand the test no better than old Izaak's. The quotation on p. 52 from 'The Compleat Angler' has three errors or omissions, if "Ephemera's" edition may be trusted. Of all the sketches of the "kings," we prefer that of the Hon. Grantley F. Berkeley, probably because the author was personally acquainted with his subject; but from remarks here and there throughout the volumes the impression is conveyed that he is more conversant with the mysteries of book-making than with those of sport. He condenses Scrope's immortal grise and trout into two trout, makes merry over John Younger's opinion that a salmon fly represents a shrimp, and seems to think that the modern practical angler believes that trout flies alight on the top of the water, rather than rise from the bottom.

LAW AND POLITICS.

MESSRS. LONGMAN are responsible for *The Law and Policy of Annexation*, the remainder of the title of which is not to be forgotten, for without it the book would seem far wider in its nature than is the case. The title continues, "with special reference to the Philippines, together with observations on the status of Cuba"; and Mr. Carman Randolph, the author, although a lawyer, writes in fact as an American of strong opinions for the purpose of blackening the Philippine annexation in the eyes of his country; and his book does not constitute a legal treatise on annexation, such as many might think it upon a cursory examination. A fact is, however, prominently brought out in this volume which has attracted little or no attention on this side of the Atlantic. It is that conditions were made by the United States Government with regard to slavery which were at once repudiated as improper by the courts and by Congress. The discussions by the author of what is meant by "the United States" are unimportant, except to citizens of that country; but the general doctrine with regard to slavery is applicable to ourselves. Slavery exists among the

Mohammedans of the Philippines. The military authorities made an agreement with the Sultan of Sulu, in some degree temporarily recognizing slavery; the Supreme Court has held that slavery in any form is contrary to the law of the land; and Congress has stoutly upheld this view. It is probable that there are few in the United States who doubt that a mistake was made in annexing the Philippines, and the general view, although falling short of that of Mr. Randolph, which is entirely contrary to the whole adventure, is undoubtedly that it would have been better not to have gone beyond a protectorate. Difficulties, however, are obvious in the public law of the United States, which is wholly different from that of England in respect of the annexation of territory, there being no power in the executive Government of the United States to acquire territory, which by English law, when conquered by the British arms, becomes a dominion of the King in right of the Crown, and therefore subject to Parliament. Mr. Randolph is as hazy in his views as to trade as are most Americans, but he points out very clearly how absurdly small a proportion of the trade of the United States is the whole of its Asiatic trade, and how little probable it is that that trade will increase to any vast extent. The description which he gives of the present state of the Philippines, and of the nature of the guerilla war, is painful reading to ourselves, who have to deal in South Africa with circumstances not dissimilar.

All readers of magazines know the remarkable power of invective possessed by Mr. Arnold White, and the general line of his recent series of articles against smart society and plutocracy and in favour of administrative reform. Messrs. Methuen & Co. now publish *Efficiency and Empire*, in which Mr. Arnold White weaves these articles and other matter into a new book, the articles themselves being rewritten, but without the omission of some of those striking passages which have been largely quoted in the newspapers of late. His general doctrine is that we are now despised throughout Europe in consequence of our recent breakdown in South Africa, while previously we were only disliked; that we have lost as many men by death and disease as our enemy was able to place in the field, and that we are largely dependent upon "pro-Boers" in the shape of the other nations who thus despise and dislike us; that Parliament is entirely in the hands of the party to which Mr. Arnold White himself belongs, but that from that party "poor gentlemen, working men, and Nonconformists are practically excluded," so that it

"does not form a true representation of national life.....The patriots in our national assembly are rich;.....the poorer members.....more or less affected to the Empire."

The Foreign Office is even more incompetent:

"Among.....the diplomatic agents abroad are only two really able men—and both of them were brought in from outside—Lord Cromer and Lord Pauncefoot.....Our Army organization is both costly and unsuccessful, because our rulers did not tell the people the truth, even if they knew it; and they muzzled those who could.....Ministers.....are incessant and unscrupulous talkers and skilled defenders of abuses.....The Commander-in-Chief is the clerk of a rhetorician."

There is some exaggeration about Mr. Arnold White, of course, especially when (writing) he believes, as a member of the Navy League) he says that "we have lost the command of the sea." While agreeing that there is too much truth in what our author says, we think it certain that at least in this last point he is wrong, although we think his warnings necessary. It is our belief that the impartial observer must still admit that our fleet is as yet equal to its task. Supposing that German policy should point to obtaining advantages for Germany by menacing us with

a possible coalition of Russia, France, Spain, and Germany, our fleet is, we are convinced, still sufficient to prevent any immediate looking with easiness on the part of Germany to the probable result. At the same time the enormous demands now being made on us for the army—the result mainly of incompetent government in the past—are likely to prevent a sufficient increase of the fleet to keep pace with the enormously rapid improvement of the German fleets; and Mr. Arnold White's book will do good, even though he be, perhaps, a little too much of a Juvenal for the situation. In his preface he points out how France temporarily fell in 1870, and permanently suffered great loss of power and influence, by neglecting between 1867 and 1870 the opportunity which her disaster at the hands of the Mexican guerilla had afforded her. He quotes Col. Stoffel's reports as exactly applicable to ourselves. He thinks apparently that that gentleman is dead, whereas we know that he was in excellent health not long ago, and had not heard of his death. Surely, however, it is an exaggeration to say that the words "A majority formed almost entirely of mediocrities, an opposition in which" those "prevail, who make patriotism consist of hateful recrimination or of malice, who hide their inefficiency and their impotence under flowery rhetoric, who simulate anxiety for the country's interests," might, with justice, "be written of the House of Commons of to-day." The majority—the Government party in the House of Commons—is probably superior in intellectual ability and in character to any majority which ever sat within the walls of any Parliament. Still, we fully admit that the circumstances of the country are such that even Mr. Arnold White's exaggeration may lead to self-consideration and to improvement. Another exaggeration lies in the statement that, "judging by the attitude of our rulers to-day towards incompetent generals in South Africa, they would infallibly have spared Whitelocke." A large number of officers, some of them in very high command, have been either placed on half-pay, or sent home under a cloud and not re-employed, whose inefficiency may be admitted, but who at least had not failed so conspicuously as did General Whitelocke in South America. With regard to the statement that at the time of "the great French War.....the influence of German Jews and unsavoury finance were" not permitted to affect the decision of the Minister when creating a peerage, we would point out that the Duke of Wellington complained that a Jew financier, who in his opinion ought to have been shot for his part in connexion with the supplies of the army in the Peninsula, was, as a fact, made a baronet by the Administration. Mr. Arnold White is a little inclined to fall into the mistake of the daily press in depreciating the superior officers by contrasting with them too sharply "the private soldiers," who "have done splendidly." The perusal of the evidence given before the Courts of Inquiry in South Africa, which is now beginning to be possible through the circulation of documents by those dissatisfied with the censures passed upon them, goes to show that while there have been conspicuous examples of gallantry and good service on the part of general officers, regimental officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, only the superior non-commissioned officers have as yet come scatheless through the test; and it is our opinion that those who most uniformly have done their duty, or more than their duty, after the colour-sergeants and other chief non-commissioned officers, are the junior company officers of the regular force. The conduct of the men has varied very much, even for the British army, in which there has always been great variation. Of detailed criticism on Mr. White, of course, there might be much, because his book bristles with somewhat dogmatical statements. We

should not be disposed to admit to him that "the neglect of the British Government to secure the ratification of the Treaty with Portugal concluded by Sir Robert Morier in 1879" formed "one of the most deplorable exhibitions of incapacity that even our diplomatic history can show." It is our view that it was a misfortune for the country that Sir Robert Morier's treaties were not ratified, but the one relating to Delagoa Bay came to depend for its fate upon the one relating to the Congo; and the Chambers of Commerce throughout the country (unwisely, as we think) took up so determined a position of resistance to all arrangements with Portugal, that neither the Government of 1879, which had the first treaty to deal with, nor the Government of 1883-4, which, under the guidance of Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, had the combined treaties to deal with, could have succeeded in avoiding reversal of their policy by the House of Commons had they come to terms with Portugal. As will be remembered, Germany stepped in in 1884, at the prompting of the King of the Belgians, and the Congo State, and universal applause, reaped the harvest for which Portugal had striven. Most men now realize that it would have been to the advantage of this country to retain nominal Portuguese control of the vast areas in Africa to which that country had a good historical claim. The treaties gave us every facility for trade, and indeed all that we could desire; but at the time it was impossible to induce Manchester to see what was in fact her interest. Mr. Arnold White's style is full of vigour; but on the first page of his preface there is (at the end of the first paragraph) a curious example of a sentence which appears incomplete, as the opportunity for reorganization in France is said to have "occurred between the withdrawal of French troops from Mexico in the early part of 1867," and, no doubt, 1870; but the second period of time fails to appear. We also object to the manner in which the contrast between Waima, where we have not had our money, and Uganda, where we paid it, contrary to our opinion of justice, for damages to French and German Roman Catholics, is expressed: "England pays up without demur." Why "up"?

Prof. Nys, of the University of Brussels, publishes through M. Alfred Castaigne, of Brussels, and the firm of Fontemoing in Paris, a new volume of miscellaneous studies in international law, under the title *Études de Droit International et de Droit Politique*. The notes on neutrality, which stand first, contain nothing new. There is the usual protest of the small Powers against the action in the name of the world of the great ones, whether in the form of the European Concert of the great Powers, or in the form of the new Concert at Pekin. There is a discussion on the position of Belgium in particular; and then the author passes on to two or three essays which have more literary interest—such, for example, as one on the history of international law in the Low Countries, one on Campanella, one on Sir Henry Wotton, one on Sir Julius Cæsar, and one on Bentham. There does not appear to us to be much that is new in any of these essays; but, on the other hand, they are readable and generally accurate.

Mr. H. W. Lucy's *Diaries of Parliament* are always pleasant, except to a few members who are adversely criticized with spirit; and Mr. Lucy is as lively as usual in his *Diary of the Unionist Parliament, 1895-1900*, illustrated by Mr. E. T. Reed, of *Punch*, and published by Mr. J. W. Arrowsmith, of Bristol, and in London by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. Many suggestions of difference of opinion might be made, as Mr. Lucy expresses strong views of his own; but these are not for us, and they are all matters of argument. The

record of Mr. Lucy will disturb the minds of some of those whose political memories are short. It was as late as May 8th, 1896, that Mr. Chamberlain in a fine passage, which is excellently recorded in 'Hansard,' defended the action to which he had been a party after Majuba. But at the late general election a very different line was taken in his name by many of those who alluded to the subject; and Mr. Lucy's reminder, in a book which is dedicated to Mr. Chamberlain and which rightly claims for him, above all characteristics, courage, is likely to make many turn back to the passage of which we speak. Mr. Lucy is perhaps less well inspired where he deals with one of Mr. Balfour's many speeches in favour of a Roman Catholic university for Ireland as though its delivery were a notable incident, which is the view taken of every such speech by Parliament and the press each time that it is made. We say "each time" because—although the incident, to the short memories of Parliament and of the daily press, is each time new—Mr. Balfour has the habit, as all who are familiar with the Irish university question know, of repeating a speech on the subject, almost word for word, twice a year with unflinching regularity. Mr. Lucy will have his usual readers, and deserves them.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MR. BECKLES WILLSON publishes through Mr. Grant Richards a new edition of his excellent book of 1897 on Newfoundland, under the title *The Truth about Newfoundland—the Tenth Island*. He prefixes an introduction, in which he refers to the Royal Commission which investigated the French Shore question and made a report, as to which the author offers us certain guesses. The evidence has not been published here, but a good deal of it was published in the local newspapers of the colony. The report is absolutely secret, and we cannot, of course, tell whether the paragraphs with regard to it, which begin "They have doubtless," are based on information or on guesswork. In any case, there is one useful thing in the introduction, which is a full quotation from Mr. Chamberlain's speech at Wolverhampton after the return of the Commission. It is a pity that the date is not given, because those interested in the subject would naturally wish to turn to the reports in order to obtain the context. Mr. Beckles Willson also refers to an article of his in the *Fortnightly Review* in which he returned to the subject of his book. In that article he suggested, but suggests more doubtfully here, that compensation should be given to the colony. The grant of money to self-governing colonies by Parliament is an awkward business. Lord Ripon made such a grant, which had to be presented to the House of Commons for confirmation by a vote after the fall of the Rosebery Administration in the summer of 1895; and those who refer to the debate which took place on the vote in Estimates in the short session of August, 1895, will find that the vote was unanimously condemned in the House of Commons, although it was unanimously carried. Not a voice was raised in favour of the principle, which was severely condemned by Mr. Chamberlain as the incoming Secretary of State, and the money was voted only because there was nothing else to be done. It was admitted in the debate that if an amendment were pressed it would be carried by the House; but it was pointed out that the vote would have to be set up again and granted, so that the refusal of it in the first instance would only amount to a condemnation which was already complete.

MESSRS. HARPER & BROTHERS publish *American Engineering Competition*, a reprint of a most able series of articles from the *Times* by a writer who has preferred to remain anonymous, although there is no secret about his name.

The view given to the world of the rapidity of progress of American manufactures is startling in the extreme, but entirely true. We fear that it is the case that a certain contract by the city of Glasgow for tramway rails has been given to the United States, the next lowest tender (from England) being at a price half as high again as that offered from the United States, and with less favourable conditions as regards time of delivery; and the Scotch firms seem to have been unable to enter into the competition. The rapidity of our decline from the first place in the iron and steel trade has been remarkable; but the author of the letters before us is by no means a pessimist, and takes perhaps an unduly favourable view of our prospects in the future. It is an interesting fact that the iron which is being used at Pittsburg comes from the Canadian frontier; and the coal itself has now to travel a considerable distance. Iron is being sent to Australia in successful competition with the iron of Cleveland and other British districts in which the apparent or obvious conditions are more favourable to ourselves than to the United States. Even that portion of the iron ore used in this country which comes from Bilbao in Spain has less distance to travel than the ore used at the American works. Their iron is now almost entirely brought from the west and north-west of Lake Superior. It is brought a considerable distance to the port, and then, in large steamers, passes through three locks on the way to Lake Huron by a canal which carries as much tonnage as the Suez Canal itself. After this long voyage and fall of 25 feet, the vessels pass by another canal into Lake Erie, and the ore is then landed at Cleveland (Ohio), or other ports, and sent down to the foundries, from which again the manufactured product has to take an enormous journey before it can come into active competition with British iron; and, according to our author, it seems clear that we are being beaten more by ingenuity and courage in coping with difficulties—by brains, in short—than by natural advantages. This makes it the less desirable that we should sit down and fold our hands.

A SIMILAR volume, *The American Workman* (Baltimore, Johns Hopkins Press), is a translation by Dr. Thomas Adams, of the Johns Hopkins University, of a work by Prof. Levasseur, of the College of France. The book is not thoroughly brought up to the moment, and not free from serious errors. The original study for the volume was made in 1893, and the material for it mainly supplied by the Labour Commissioner of the United States; but it has been used without sufficient thought or knowledge. There are many points upon which the observations of Prof. Levasseur are of great value: for example, his note explaining to the workmen why they are peculiarly foolish in supporting, as personally advantageous to themselves, some of the views as to silver popular among the followers of Mr. Bryan. But the mistakes which any one who has a wide acquaintance with labour legislation cannot fail to discover in the volume detract seriously from its importance. Taking those which concern this country, we find the author writing of the Factories and Workshops Act of 1878 as having been "repealed" in 1895; whereas it is impossible to have the least acquaintance with labour legislation without knowing that the Act of 1878, modified by those of 1891 and 1895, remains "the principal Act" and has to be referred to on every occasion. Another extraordinary mistake is the view taken by the author of the position of the miners' eight hours question in this country. He makes no distinction between the miners of Northumberland and Durham and those of the rest of the country. He says that when the *Miners' Eight Hours Bill* came

before the House of Commons "the members representing the labour party voted against it"; and, alluding to the Trades Congress of 1895, he writes, of the eight hours generally, "the miners held aloof"; the fact being that all the miners, except those of Northumberland and Durham, took, as they have taken at every Trades Congress, the course of insisting on their own Eight Hours Bill as the first step in eight-hour legislation. The author also writes of the experiment of Mr. Emerson Bainbridge without alluding to the short hours worked by coal-hewers in Northumberland and Durham, and his argument or presentation of the case is entirely vitiated by the omission.

LAST Saturday a centenary was celebrated by the publication of a facsimile of the *Leeds Mercury* for March 7th, 1801. The paper is, of course, more than a century old, but its real position as a power and its excellent record are due to the energy and management of Edward Baines and his family, who will always be associated with its history and achievements.

THE latest generation of boys ought to think themselves very lucky to get a book like *The Coral Island* (Ward & Lock) for sixpence. Messrs. Ward & Lock have also sent us *Sartor Resartus*, *Heroes and Hero Worship*, and *Past and Present*, all in one volume of the "Minerva Library."

AMONG other reprints we may notice *Rob Roy and The Antiquary* in the attractive "New Century Library" (Nelson), Newman's *Callista* (Burns & Oates), and the addition of Mr. Hewlett's *Earthwork out of Tuscany* to the "Eversley Series" (Macmillan). It is pleasing to observe in this third edition that the author has kept his two prefaces, and added a note in the third that "I cannot be for ever explaining what I intended when I wrote this book." We sympathize, and wish the modern reader more intelligence of his own.

WE have on our table *Memoirs of Countess Potocka*, edited by C. Stryenski, translated by L. Strachey (Grant Richards),—*Henley and Burns*, edited by J. D. Ross, LL.D. (Gibbins),—*The School World*, Vol. II., 1900 (Macmillan),—*Side Lights on Great Problems of Human Interest*, by R. S. Kirk (Williams & Norgate),—*Mother Nature's Children*, by A. W. Gould (Arnold),—*An Englishman's Love-Letters* (Unicorn Press),—*The Fading of the Light*, and other Stories, by A. Dunn, jun. (Scott),—*Tom Andrews*, by A. Chandler (Stock),—*The Mystery of Master Max*, by H. Atteridge (Cassell),—*The Troubles of a Shovel Hat*, and other Stories, by Max Baring (Simpkin),—*The Joy of Captain Ribot*, by A. Palacio Valdés, translated by M. C. Smith (Downey & Co.),—*One of Buller's Horse*, by W. Johnston (Nelson),—*Bele Aliz*, by H. Bell (Wellby),—*Ghost of Rosalys*: a Play, by C. L. Moore (Philadelphia, Moore, P.O. Box 178),—*Letters of Spiritual Counsel*, by the Rev. J. F. F. Davidson (Wells Gardner),—*The Fatal Opulence of Bishops*, by H. Handley (A. & C. Black),—*The Society of Friends: its Faith and Practice*, by J. S. Rowntree (Headley Bros.),—*Tafeln zur Geschichte der Philosophie*, by Dr. C. Stumpf (Berlin, Speyer & Peters),—and *Histoire de la Littérature Française*, by E. E. B. Lacomblé (Groningen, Noordhoff). Among New Editions we have *Michael Faraday: his Life and Work*, by S. P. Thompson (Cassell),—*Don Quixote of the Mancha*, retold by Judge Parry (Blackie),—*Historical Memoirs of the City of Armagh*, by J. Stuart, revised by Rev. A. Coleman (Dublin, Gill & Son),—*What is Life?* by F. Hovenden (Chapman & Hall),—*The Waterloo Campaign, 1815*, by W. Siborne (Constable),—and Cooper's *The Prairie* (Macmillan).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

- Mee (J. H.), Ten Good Friday Sermons preached in Chichester Cathedral, cr. 8vo, 2/6 net.
Moulton (R. G.), A Short Introduction to the Literature of the Bible, cr. 8vo, 3/6
Sergieff (Father J.), Truths about God, the Church, the World, and the Human Soul, translated by E. E. Goulaeff, 18mo, 2/6 net.

Law.

- Randolph (C. F.), The Law and Policy of Annexation, 8vo, 9/ net.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

- Pictureque Kent, 4to, 6/ net.
Spooner (H. J.), The Elements of Geometrical Drawing, 3/6
Stearns (F. P.), Four Great Venetians: Giorgione, Titian, Tintoretto, and Il Veronese, cr. 8vo, 9/
Waters (W. G.), Piero Della Francesca, cr. 8vo, 5/ net.

Poetry and the Drama.

- Grein (J. T.), Premières of the Year, cr. 8vo, 3/6 net.
Heartsease, a Cycle of Song, 12mo, 2/6 net.
Legge (A. R. J.), Town and Country Poems, cr. 8vo, 3/6
Osborn (F.), Rose Leaves from Philostratus, 16mo, 2/6 net.

History and Biography.

- Allen (Grant), Anglo-Saxon Britain, with Map, 12mo, 2/6
Biss (H. C. J.), The Relief of Kumasi, cr. 8vo, 6/
Day (E.), The Social Life of the Hebrews, cr. 8vo, 5/ net.

Geography and Travel.

- Holdich (Sir T. H.), The Indian Borderland, 1880-1900, 8vo, 15/ net.
Percy (Earl), Highlands of Asiatic Turkey, roy. 8vo, 14/ net.
Randall-MacIver (D.) and Wilkin (A.), Libyan Notes, 20/ net.
Recollections of Malaya, by an Old Resident, cr. 8vo, 3/6
Samways (D. W.), Mentone as a Health and Pleasure Resort, 12mo, 3/6

Philology.

- Hinde (H.), The Masai Language, cr. 8vo, 3/6
Kennett (R. H.), A Short Account of the Hebrew Tenses, cr. 8vo, 3/ net.
West (A. S.), Key to the Questions in West's Elements of English Grammar and English Grammar for Beginners, cr. 8vo, 3/6 net.

Science.

- Bailey (L. H.), The Principles of Vegetable Gardening, cr. 8vo, 4/6 net.
Catalogue of the Mesozoic Plants in the British Museum (Natural History): 1, The Yorkshire Coast, Plates I.-XXI., by A. C. Seward, 8vo, 20/
Gray (A.), A Treatise on Physics: Vol. 1, Dynamics and Properties of Matter, 8vo, 15/
Lawrie (E.), Chloroform, 4to, 5/
Lock (C. G. W.), Gold Milling: Principles and Practice, 8vo, 30/ net.
Stoney (Emily M. A.), Bacteriology and Surgical Technique for Nurses, 8vo, 5/ net.

General Literature.

- "A 1" Cookery Book, by H. N. L., cr. 8vo, 2/6
Ainslie (N.), The Salvation Seekers, cr. 8vo, 6/
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Bullen (F. T.), A Sack of Shavings, 8vo, 6/
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- Boer (T. J. de), Geschichte der Philosophie im Islam, 4m.
Gerhard (A.) u. Simon (H.), Mutterschaft u. geistige Arbeit, 5m.
Mauthner (F.), Beiträge zu e. Kritik der Sprache: Vol. 1, Sprache u. Psychologie, 12m.

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- Lair (A.), Correspondance de Théodore Jouffroy, 3fr. 50.
Lebon (A.), La Politique de la France en Afrique, 1896-8, 5fr.
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- Adamovitch (J.), Dictionnaire Français-Croate, 6m.
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Thalheim (T.), Lysie Oratones, 3m.
Wecklein (N.), Euripidis Phœnissæ, 2m. 80.

Science.

- Hann (J.), Lehrbuch der Meteorologie, Part 1, 3m.
Raubar (A.), Atlas der Krystallogeneration: Part 6, Entwicklung des Torso, 25m.
Schmaus (H.), Vorlesungen üb. die pathologische Anatomie des Rückenmarks, 16m.

General Literature.

- Ajalbert (J.), La Tournee, 3fr. 30.
Broc (Vicomte de), Le Style Epistolaire, 3fr. 50.
Gachons (J. des), Mon Amie, 3fr. 50.
Lecomte (G.), Les Cartons Verts, 3fr. 50.
Rebell (H.), La Femme qui a connu l'Empereur, 3fr. 50.
Tinayre (M.), L'Oiseau d'Orange, 3fr. 50.
Tovote (H.), Frau Agna, 3m. 50.

SIR EDWARD MALET'S 'SHIFTING SCENES.'

THE reviewer of Sir Edward Malet's "Shifting Scenes" expresses some doubt of the accuracy of a story which Sir Edward tells about the dispatch of a mysterious Englishman from Paris with the British Embassy bag at the

close of the insurrection of the Commune. I am able, however, to supply some corroboration of the story. On one of the very last days of the *semaine sanglante*—the Friday, I fancy—the late Captain the Hon. D. Bingham, the regular Paris correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* (for which I myself, as well as my father, wrote occasionally), came to me in the Rue de Miromesnil, to tell me that they had "got somebody in the embassy" who wished to quit Paris, and who would leave that day with dispatches and letters. My father, the titular correspondent of the *Illustrated London News*, was somewhere about the city, watching the fires or the fighting with one of my brothers; but although I was little more than seventeen at that time, I had been accustomed for quite two years to act on my own responsibility whenever an emergency arose and the interests of the paper were at stake. I therefore made up a small parcel of sketches and correspondence for Capt. Bingham to take to the embassy, which he did not do immediately, however, as in the first instance he wished to write a letter for the *Pall Mall Gazette*. Early in the afternoon he came to me again in a very worried state, to tell me that he had missed the messenger, who had already started. He certainly never told me the messenger's name—perhaps he himself never knew it—but I fully understood from him that the person in question was not one of the regular embassy officials, but some Englishman in a difficulty.

ERNEST A. VIZETELLY.

THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

THE fourteenth volume of this society's *Transactions* contains a series of historical essays of exceptional value, considering the great variety of subjects presented. Mr. C. H. Firth contributes another of his important revisions of the received versions of some Cromwellian battles, in the shape of an account of Dunbar illustrated by a contemporary plan to which we have previously referred. Miss Kate Norgate joins issue with French experts as to the historical probabilities of the alleged condemnation of King John by his French peers in the year 1202. Miss Norgate argues that there is negative evidence opposed to the probability of any such trial, and she is inclined to believe that the whole story was concocted by the French king with the tacit connivance of the Pope. Miss Davenport, an American student who is already a recognized authority on the sources of English agrarian history, furnishes an instructive paper on 'The Decay of Villeinage in East Anglia,' in which the manumissions and "flittings" of bondmen in Forncett manor are traced from the reign of Edward I. to that of Elizabeth. Mr. W. J. Corbett plunges into prehistoric times (so to speak) with a deeply-reasoned paper on the obscure origin and meaning of the "tribal hidage." Mr. Corbett is specially qualified to deal with this neglected subject, and his essay, although it does not pretend to be conclusive, deserves careful study. It is illustrated by a valuable coloured map of England under the Heptarchy.

We have next a scholarly paper by Mr. Raymond Beazley on the Syrian itinerary of Daniel of Kiev, and then we are taken on to the eighteenth century with a brilliant article on political parties in the reign of Queen Anne, being the "Alexander Prize Essay" of the year, contributed by Mr. Frewen Lord. Another paper, containing the chief points of interest noted by Mrs. D'Arcy Collyer in the official correspondence between England and Russia during the first half of the eighteenth century, serves as a prelude to the same writer's edition of the Earl of Buckinghamshire's correspondence at St. Petersburg, which we noticed on a former occasion.

We are unable to do more than refer to the learned controversy printed in this volume between Mr. E. F. Gay and Mr. Leadam on the

subject of the 'Inquisitions of Depopulation' in 1517. The critical method employed by Mr. Gay on this occasion shows such research and historical perception as to excite interest in his forthcoming study on the economic history of the Tudor period.

We cannot conclude this brief summary of the contents of these important *Transactions* without referring to Dr. Ward's presidential address, which is interesting for more than one reason. It is the first and only address delivered by Dr. Ward, whose new position has caused his retirement from the headship of the society. Its critical rather than commemorative side concerns us now, and here Dr. Ward is at his best. He includes a concise but graphic description of advanced historical studies in this country, dwelling on the privileges enjoyed by our continental neighbours. The comparison is certainly not to our advantage. We cannot altogether agree with those who would impose upon the authorities of our centralized archives the experiment of relying upon the past students of an English "School of Charters" to fill the places of the recruits hitherto furnished by the honour schools of the universities, but such a school might certainly be utilized for many other purposes.

In an earlier contribution to the *Transactions* of the Royal Historical Society the Regius Professor of History at Oxford called attention to the public spirit displayed by certain foreign Governments in this matter, and urged that steps should be taken for training an official staff, with a view to the custody and arrangement of our local records, on the lines of the French departmental archives. Some sort of response has been made to this appeal by the appointment of an official committee to collect evidence on the subject for the information of the Treasury. But committees are slow to move, and meanwhile we have, as Dr. Ward observes in his address, the mortification of noting the rapid progress made by foreign nations in the science of historical studies, and the painful spectacle "of our own unused resources and neglected opportunities."

It is true that Dr. Ward does not here present anything like a scheme for the organization of advanced historical studies in London, "the appointed chief repository of the records of our country's past, and, whether it choose it or not, the true centre of the nation's intellectual activities." It will be remembered, however, that shortly after the delivery of this address such a scheme was submitted by Dr. Ward for the consideration of a very large number of historical scholars, and that it was recently announced that active steps would be taken to carry the scheme or some modification of it into effect. We are therefore justified in expressing a hope that the matter will not be allowed to drop. There must surely be many who have experienced the truth of Dr. Ward's pathetic reflection that "our English *École des Chartes* has—at least till quite recently—been the school of self-help."

We must confess to a certain insular pride in the results of a system which has produced a long series of historical scholars represented in our own time by such names as those of Prof. Maitland, Mr. W. H. Stevenson, and Mr. J. H. Round; but it must be admitted that the success of a few is not a striking argument in favour of the soundness of a system which is, in fact, no "system" at all. For the real meaning of a true system of advanced historical studies we may refer to the pages of Prof. Fredericq's fascinating work, to which Dr. Ward alludes in his address. A study of this remarkable record of patient and disinterested labour in the cause of pure historical science should convince the most prejudiced advocate of the old haphazard system of research that a new and scientific method of historical study ought to be established by the citizens of the intellectual capital of a great nation.

THE SPRING PUBLISHING SEASON.

THE spring list of the Cambridge University Press includes: Midrash Haggadol, edited by S. Schechter, Grammar of Septuagint Greek, by H. St. John Thackeray, Salisbury Processions and Ceremonies, edited by Chr. Wordsworth, The Prayer Book of Aldenald the Bishop, edited by Dom A. B. Kuypers, The Curetonian Syriac Gospels, re-edited by F. C. Burkitt, The Use of Sarum: Vol. II., The Ordinal and the Tonal, Renderings from Eastern and Western Office Books, by the Rev. R. M. Moorsom, in the "Cambridge Patristic Texts": Gregory, Oratio Catechetica, edited by J. H. Srawley; Augustine, De Doctrina Christiana, edited by H. F. Stewart; and Serapion, edited by F. E. Brightman, Palladius, the Lausiac History (II.), the Greek text edited by Dom C. Butler, Codex 1 of the Gospels and its Allies, by K. Lake, A Study of Ambrosiaster, by A. Souter, The Meaning of Homo-ousios in the Constantinopolitan Creed, by J. F. Bethune Baker, Apocrypha Arabica, edited by M. D. Gibson: Kitāb Al Magāll, or the Book of the Rolls; The Story of Cyprian and Justa; The Story of Aphigia, Wife of Jesus ben Sira, The Jataka, Vol. V., translated by H. T. Francis and R. A. Neil; Vol. VI., translated by Prof. E. B. Cowell, Catalogue of Syriac Manuscripts in the Cambridge University Library, by W. Wright, The Didascalia Apostolorum in Syriac, edited by M. D. Gibson, A Short Grammar of the Masai Language, by Mrs. Hinde, Malay Folk-Tales, translated by W. W. Skeat, Plato, The Republic, edited by J. Adam, Aristophanes, Equites, edited by R. A. Neil, Æschylus, Choephore, edited by T. G. Tucker, Bacchylides, the New Poems and Fragments, a revised text, edited by Sir R. Jebb, Two Greek Grammars of the Thirteenth Century, now first edited by the Rev. Edmond Nolan, Sophocles, The Fragments, and Sophocles, translated into English Prose, by Sir R. Jebb, Compositions in Greek and Latin Verse and Prose, by the late R. Shilleto, The Early Age of Greece, by W. Ridgeway, Vol. I., The Hisperica Fama and their Literary Congeners, edited by F. J. H. Jenkinson, History of Classical Scholarship, by J. E. Sandys, In mathematics and science: Scientific Papers, by Lord Rayleigh, Vol. III., Papers on Mechanical and Physical Subjects, by O. Reynolds, Vol. II., Scientific Papers, by the late John Hopkinson, 2 vols., A Treatise on Spherical Astronomy, by Sir R. S. Ball, Advanced Exercises in Practical Physics, by A. Schuster, Zoological Results based on Material from New Britain, by Arthur Willey, Part V., Reports of the Anthropological Expedition to Torres Straits, edited by A. C. Haddon, Vol. II., Fauna Hawaiianensis, edited by David Sharp: Vol. I. Part II., Macrolepidoptera, by E. Meyrick; Vol. II. Part I., Orthoptera, by R. C. L. Perkins; Vol. II. Part II., Neuroptera, by R. C. L. Perkins; Vol. II. Part III., Coleoptera, I, by D. Sharp and R. C. L. Perkins; Vol. II. Part IV., Mollusca, by E. R. Sykes; Earthworms, by F. E. Beddard; and Entozoa, by A. E. Shipley, Natural Science Manuals: Zoology, by E. W. MacBride and A. E. Shipley; Lectures on Great Physiologists, by Sir Michael Foster; Fossil Plants, by A. C. Seward, Vol. II.; British Grasses, by H. M. Ward; Electricity and Magnetism, by R. T. Glazebrook, The Teaching of History, edited by Lord Acton and W. A. J. Archbold, The Anglo-Saxon Chancery, by W. H. Stevenson, Select Cases in Criminal Law, by C. Kenny, A History of the Law of Nations, by T. A. Walker, Vol. II., Roman Private Law, by H. J. Roby, Cooper's Annals of Cambridge, Supplementary Volume, edited by J. W. Cooper, Cromwell on Foreign Affairs, by F. W. Payn, The Fallen Stuarts, by F. W.

Head, Germany, 1815-1890, by J. W. Headlam, 2 vols., The Colonization of South America, by E. J. Payne, in the "Pitt Press Shakespeare": Macbeth, edited by A. W. Verity, a number of other school-books and primers, Biographical History of Gonville and Caius College, 1349-1897, Vol. III., The Triumphs of Turlogh, edited by S. H. O'Grady, 2 vols., Thesaurus Palæohibernicus, edited by W. Stokes and J. Strachan, Lord Macaulay, by D. H. Macgregor, The Care of Books, by J. W. Clark, The Western Manuscripts in the Library of Trinity College, Cambridge, by M. R. James, Vol. II., The Neo-Platonists, by T. Whittaker, A Short Account of the Hebrew Tenses, by the Rev. R. H. Kennett, and The Conditions of Travel and Communication, by C. A. J. Skeel.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. announce Britain's Title in South Africa, by Prof. J. Cappon, The Statesman's Year-Book, edited by J. Scott Keltie, in the "Library of English Classics," edited by A. W. Pollard: De Quincey's Confessions of an Opium-Eater, Murder as a Fine Art, The English Mail Coach, and other Essays, In Bad Company, by Rolf Boldrewood, The Helmet of Navarre, by B. Runkle, the works of Marion Crawford, a new edition in fortnightly volumes, the Border Edition of the Waverley Novels, Old Mortality, West African Studies, by Mary H. Kingsley, new edition with additional chapters, Libyan Notes, by David Randall-MacIver and A. Wilkin, Anthology of Latin Poetry, by R. Y. Tyrrell, The Monastery of Saint Luke of Stiris in Phocis and the dependent Monastery of Saint Nicolas in the Fields, near Skripou in Boeotia, by R. W. Schultz and S. H. Barnsley, Dictionary of Architecture and Building, edited by Russell Sturgis: Vol. I., A-E. In law, science, and theology: Lectures illustrating the Changes in the English Law during the Nineteenth Century, by H. Blake Odgers, The Cambridge Natural History: Vol. VIII., Amphibia and Reptiles, by H. Gadow, The Scientific Memoirs of Thomas Henry Huxley, edited by Sir M. Foster and Prof. E. Ray Lankester, Vol. III., Democracy and the Organization of Political Parties, by M. Ostrogorski, translated by F. Clarke, 2 vols., The Methods of Ethics, by the late Henry Sidgwick, new and revised edition, The Problem of Conduct, by A. E. Taylor, A Manual of Medicine, edited by W. H. Allchin, Vol. III., Practical Organic Chemistry for Advanced Students, by J. B. Cohen, Lessons from Work: a Volume of Sermons, by Bishop Westcott, Unity in Christ, and other Sermons, by J. Armitage Robinson, The Key of Knowledge: Sermons preached in Westminster Abbey, by W. G. Rutherford, A New History of the Book of Common Prayer, by F. Procter, revised by W. H. Frere, and several other new editions.

Mr. Fisher Unwin announces the following forthcoming publications. In fiction: Mistress Barbara Cumliffe, by Mr. Halliwell Sutcliffe, John Jones, Curate, by Miss G. Pryce, Love and the Soul Hunters, by John Oliver Hobbes, The Wizard's Knot, by Dr. William Barry, The Wisdom of Esau, by Mr. R. M. Outhwaite and Mr. C. H. Chomley, Yorke the Adventurer, and other Tales, by Mr. Louis Becke, The Lion's Whelp, by Mrs. Amelia E. Barr, The Yellow Fiend, by Mrs. Alexander, Black Mary, by Mr. Allan McAulay, Sister Theresa, by Mr. George Moore; and a much revised and cheaper edition of Evelyn Innes, by the same author, Among the Syringas, by Mrs. Mary E. Mann, Margaret Hetherington, by Mrs. Kiesow, By Command of the Prince, by Mr. J. L. Lambe, The Wouldbegoods, by Mrs. E. Nesbit, Two Busybodies, by Mrs. S. G. Arnold, A Jilt's Journal, by Rita, The Dream Woman, by "Kytie Wylwynne," Souls of Passage and The Maid of Maiden Lane, by Mrs. Amelia E. Barr, A Daughter of Patricians, by Mr. F. Clifford Smith, —

Tales from Natal, by Mr. A. R. R. Turnbull, — The Young Squire's Resolve, by "Waldo Gray," — Four Ounces to the Dish, by Mr. M. J. McMahon, — The Blue Baby, and other Stories, by Mrs. Molesworth, — Another Englishwoman's Love Letters, by Mr. Barry Pain, — Effie Hetherington, by Mr. Robert Buchanan (at sixpence), — and Tessa and the Trader's Wife, by Mr. Louis Becke. In history and travel: The Barbarian Invasion of Italy, by Prof. Pasquale Villari, — In Tibet and Chinese Turkestan, by Capt. H. H. P. Deasy, — Fifty Years of Catholic Life and Progress under the rule of Cardinals Wiseman, Newman, Manning, and Vaughan, by Mr. Percy Fitzgerald, — a popular edition of the History of Florence, by Prof. Pasquale Villari, in one volume, — The Papal Monarchy: from Gregory the Great to Boniface VIII., by Dr. William Barry, — The Story of Greece, from Earliest Times to the Roman Occupation, by Mr. E. S. Shuckburgh, — The United States of America (1783-1900), in two volumes, by Prof. A. C. McLaughlin. In essays, *belles-lettres*, &c.: Renaissance Types, by Mr. W. S. Lilly, — Before the Great Pillage, and other Essays, by the Rev. Dr. Jessopp, — Old Dutch Towns and Villages of the Zuider Zee, by Mr. Van W. J. Tuin and Mr. W. O. J. Nieuwenkamp, with wood engravings by Mr. J. G. Veldheer, — new impressions in "The Reformer's Bookshelf" of Taxes on Knowledge, by Mr. C. D. Collett; The Labour Movement, by Mr. L. T. Hobhouse; and Life of Richard Cobden, by the Right Hon. John Morley, M.P., — Memoirs of Arthur Laurensen, edited by Miss Catherine Spence, — Andreas Vesalius, by Dr. C. L. Taylor, — Poems, by Mr. W. B. Yeats, a new edition, — The Canadian Contingents and Canadian Imperialism, by Mr. W. S. Evans, — As the Chinese See Us, by the Rev. T. G. Selby, — and Beauty Adorned and Manners for Girls, by Mrs. Humphry.

Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein & Co.'s spring books include: In history, biography: The Land of the Moors, by Budgett Meakin, — The Art of Life, by R. de Maulde la Clavière, translated by G. H. Ely, — The Empress Elizabeth of Austria, by C. Tschudi, translated by E. M. Cope, — Our Public Schools: their Influence on English History, by J. G. C. Minchin, — Campaigns of the Derbyshire Regiment (95th): Vol. III., Egypt, 1882, by Major E. A. G. Gosset, — "Social England Series," edited by G. Cotes: Chivalry, by F. W. Cornish; History of the Fine Arts, by Prof. G. B. Brown; The English Manor, by Prof. Vinogradoff; The Evolution of Household Implements, by H. Balfour; Mysteries and Miracle Plays, by L. Toulmin Smith; The Social Position of Women, by C. F. Smith; and The Navy, by W. L. Clowes, — British Rule in India, by D. Naoroji. In philosophy and theology: A History of Utilitarianism, by Prof. E. Albee, — Phenomenology of the Spirit, by G. W. F. Hegel, translated by J. B. Baillie, — Aristotle's Psychology, including the *Parva Naturalia*, translated and edited by Prof. W. A. Hammond, — History of Contemporary Philosophy, by Dr. M. Heinze, translated by Prof. W. Hammond, — An Essay on Morality, by Schopenhauer, translated by A. B. Bullock, — The Elements of Embryology: Man and Mammals, by O. Hertwig, translated and edited by Prof. E. L. Mark and H. W. Rand, — The Specious Present: a Metaphysical Treatise, by A. Hodder, — and Introduction to the Study of Philosophy, by Prof. O. Kulpe, translated by E. B. Titchener. In science and technology: The Training of the Body for Games, Athletics, &c., by F. A. Schmidt and E. H. Miles, — The Life of the Sea-Shore, by M. Newbigin, — The Student's Text-Book of Zoology, by A. Sedgwick, Vol. II., — Text-Book of Paleontology for Zoological Students, by T. T. Groom, — Biological Types in the Vegetable Kingdom, by W. M. Webb, — The Romance of the Heavens, by A. W.

Bickerton, — and A System of Map Drawing, by the same, In *belles-lettres*, economics, &c.: What Great Men have said about Great Men, by W. Wale, — Specimens of Bushman Folk-lore, by Dr. W. H. J. Bleek and Miss L. C. Lloyd, — Dictionary of Foreign Quotations (Spanish and German), by Col. Dalbiac and T. B. Harbottle, — Cookery Books, by Col. A. R. K. Herbert: Vegetables and Simple Diet, — Poetical Tributes to the Memory of Queen Victoria, selected by W. Fanshaw, — Descriptive Guide to the Best English Fiction, by E. A. Baker, — The Wings of the Morning, by H. Savile, — The Hope of England, by Z. H. Lewis, — The Wonderful Century Reader, by A. R. Wallace, — Seneca's Tragedies: Latin Text, with prose translation by W. Bradshaw, — Standard Plays for Amateur Performance in Girls' Schools, edited by E. Fogarty: Sophocles' *Antigone*; Euripides' *Alkestis*, — Advanced German Writer, by Prof. Kuno Meyer, — Fourth French Reader and Writer, by Prof. H. E. Berthon, — History of Education, by Dr. J. C. G. Schumann and Prof. G. Voigt, translated by S. Levinstein, — and a new edition of Prof. Sonnenschein's Latin Syntax and of several other volumes in education and politics.

SALE.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON & HODGE included in their sale of the 1st and 2nd inst. the following valuable books: R. Parsons on the Three Conversions of England, 1603-4, 12l. Pope's copy of Lucretius, 1713, 7l. 15s. R. L. Stevenson's Light for Lighthouses, 1871, 7l. 10s.; Deacon Brodie, 1880, 10l.; Beau Austin, 1884, 10l. 15s.; Father Damien, Sydney, 1890, with MS. corrections, 27l. 5s.; Moral Emblems, two collections, 11l. 5s.; New Arabian Nights, 2 vols., 1882, 12l. 15s.; An Object of Pity and Answer to the Preceding, 1892, 59l.; Island Nights' Entertainments, 1893, 9l. 15s. Voltaire, *La Henriade*, with duplicate set of the vignettes taken apart, 2 vols., arms of the Marquis de Coislin (1769-1770), 54l. 10s. Life and Acts of Sir William Wallace, Edin., 1661, 19l. *Sphæra de Jo. de Sacro Busto*, Venet., 1488, 10l. *Saint-Sauveur, Fastes du Peuple Français*, 1796, 12l. Bohn's Biography and Bibliography of Shakespeare, 1863, 14l. Halliwell's Life of Shakespeare, thick paper, with autograph letters, &c., G. Daniel's copy, 48l. *Vadé, Œuvres Poissardes*, proof plates before letters, 1796, 14l. 5s. Winslow's Good News from New England (wants last leaf), 1624, 90l. York and Sarum Psalter, Paris, for the London Trinity Booksellers, 1522, 250l. *Speculum Passionis*, Nuremb., 1507, 12l. Vincentius Bellovacensis, *Speculum Historiale*, 4 vols., Argent., 1473, 29l. 5s. Milton Bible, 1588, with autographs of himself, Elizabeth Milton (*née* Minshall, his third wife), &c., 225l. Neale's Views of Seats, large paper, india proofs, 13 vols., 1818-34, 18l. Turner's Views in England and Wales, large paper, india proofs, 1832-4, 15l. 10s. Houghton Gallery, 2 vols., 1788, 30l. Kelmscott Press: Golden Legend, 10l. 5s.; Shakespeare's Poems, 14l.; Chaucer, two copies, 75l. and 80l.; Earthly Paradise, 23l.; Glittering Plain, 21l.; Atalanta in Calydon, 10l. 10s.; Order of Chivalry, vellum, 20l.; Sionia the Sorceress, 10l.; Biblia Innocentium, 25l. 10s. Shakespeare: Pericles, 1619, 100l.; Titus Andronicus, 1611, 620l. Beaumont and Fletcher's Phylaster, 1620, 46l. 10s.; The Maid's Tragedy, 1619, 27l. Jonson's *Epicene*, 1620, 10l. 5s. Vale Press Publications (44), 124l. 14s.

Literary Crossp.

MESSRS. WELLS GARDNER, DARTON & Co. announce as ready next week 'The Afterglow of a Great Reign,' by Dr. Winnington

Ingram, Bishop-designate of London. They have also in preparation a large work by the same author, 'Under the Dome.' Dr. Ingram is best known by his 'Work in Great Cities,' a volume of lectures which has gone through several editions.

WE wish every success to the efforts now being made to found a Creighton Professorship of History in the new teaching University of London in memory of the late bishop. Complete unanimity as to the peculiar propriety of this form of memorial seems to prevail among the bishop's many friends, whether lay or clerical, and those who were associated with him on the Royal Commission for drafting the statutes of the new university. The professorship, to be really worthy of its title and object, ought to be endowed with an income of not less than 900l. a year, as in the case of similar chairs at Oxford, Edinburgh, and Glasgow. Donations should be sent to the Lord Mayor of London, at the Mansion House; and donors should be careful to specify that their subscriptions are to be applied to the Creighton Professorship of History. Such a chair London ought to have, nor could it be associated with a more suitable name.

A TRANSLATION will shortly appear, published by Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co., of Prof. Adolf Jülicher's 'Einleitung in das Neue Testament.' This deals with each of the books of the New Testament in succession, and ends with an analysis of the history of the canon and the text. Prof. Jülicher is prominent among German theological scholars, and his book has recently gone into a second edition, considerably revised and enlarged. It is from this edition that the translation has been made. It will contain a short preface by Mrs. Humphry Ward, and has been mainly carried out by her daughter Miss Janet Ward.

THE next academic year will see Mr. Sidney Lee installed as Clark Lecturer at Cambridge. The subject of discourse is not yet fixed, but we dare say it will be something Elizabethan.

MR. G. K. FORTESCUE, Keeper of the Printed Books at the British Museum, has been nominated President of the Library Association for next year.

THE annual meeting of the Selden Society will be held on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at the Council Room, Lincoln's Inn Hall, at 4.30 P.M. The Right Hon. Lord Lindley will preside.

WE regret to announce the death of two emeritus professors of Scotch universities, both of whom have made some notable contributions to literature in their own particular departments. Prof. Dickson, who occupied the Chair of Divinity in Glasgow University for twenty-two years, was a man of wide scholarship, especially in regard to German historical and theological works. He edited Myers's 'Commentary on the New Testament,' translated Mommsen's 'History of Rome,' and as Baird Lecturer for 1883 produced a valuable work on 'St. Paul's Use of the Terms Flesh and Spirit.' Dr. Alexander Roberts, who succeeded Principal Shairp in the Humanity Chair at St. Andrews in 1871, was a member of the Revision Committee of the New Testa-

ment, and published two notable works with the object of showing that Greek was the language of Christ and His Apostles.

THE REV. J. WILLCOCK, the author of the amusing and valuable account of Sir Thomas Urquhart, of Cromartie, the translator of Rabelais, is engaged upon a life of Archibald Campbell, eighth Earl and first Marquess of Argyll, 1598-1661, in which much new information will be brought to light.

MR. FISHER UNWIN has arranged to publish a biography of Augustus by Prof. Shuckburgh, Librarian of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and author of two recent translations of Cicero. The title will be 'Augustus: Life and Times of the Founder of the Roman Empire (B.C. 63-A.D. 14).'

A BOOK of memoirs of Arthur Laurenson, a Scotch journalist who contributed to the *Scotsman* in the early part of last century, will also be published shortly by Mr. Fisher Unwin, under the editorship of Miss Catherine Spence. Laurenson visited Emerson in America; he took a considerable part in the affairs of the Shetland Islands; and the memoirs will include accounts of his lectures and travels, as well as extracts from his letters to and from various personages, and a biographical sketch.

WE are sorry to hear of the death of Mr. R. B. N. Walker on the 9th inst., at Clapham, aged sixty-eight, after a very brief illness. We recently announced Mr. Walker's jubilee as an African traveller. His knowledge of West Africa was unusual, and he was able to speak in our columns personally of places unseen by most reviewers.

THE Cambridge Senate have nominated Lord Acton and Profs. Jebb and J. J. Thomson to represent the University at the celebration of the ninth jubilee of Glasgow University next June. The Senate, it may be noted, has affiliated to Cambridge the University of New Brunswick.

DR. H. G. WOODS and Dr. Alexander Hill are to make this year the periodical visitation of university colleges in receipt of Parliamentary grants, in order to decide whether any modification is called for in the list of participating colleges or in the amount of their grants.

THE sale of the extensive and valuable library of the late Sir William Augustus Fraser, Bart., at Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge's, has been fixed for April 22nd and seven following days, and will be one of the most striking collections of printed books offered for several seasons past. Its interest is exceedingly varied, notwithstanding the fact that a few of its most desirable articles have been bequeathed to public or private institutions. It contains many fine extra-illustrated books and collections of engravings, e.g., a copy of Moore's edition of Byron's 'Letters,' &c., extended to twenty-three quarto volumes by the addition of 2,800 portraits, views, &c.; a copy of Camden's 'Britannia,' 1772, with nearly 6,000 illustrations; John Timbs's 'Club Life of London,' with upwards of 1,000 illustrations; and others of a similar character. Perhaps the gem of the whole library, from a purely literary point of view, is a copy of Thomas Gray's 'Odes,' the first edition, printed at Strawberry Hill

in 1757, with numerous important MS. notes by the author in the margins, with an autograph letter of the author, and the autograph MSS. of the song written for Miss Speed, "Thyrsis when we parted swore," and of 'Midst Beauty and Pleasure's Gay Triumphs to Languish.' This volume was purchased at Daniel's sale in 1864 for 110*l*. There are several other noteworthy and important Gray lots. Some of the books have an interesting provenance; for instance, the copy of Wycherley's 'Miscellany Poems,' 1704, is inscribed "for my Deare friend Henry Maxwell, Eqr., from his humble Servant, Wm. Wycherley." The caricatures to be sold are very numerous.

IN view of our rejoinder as to his book, Mr. Powicke forwards nine pages of extracts (undated) from the Harleian MSS. contained in one of his note-books, as proof that he has handled the originals. We are bound to believe him, and merely remark that these notes concern a MS. from which all his references are wrong in footnotes 3, 4, and 5 on p. 33 of his book, as we previously pointed out.

WITH regard to Mr. Quaritch's statement that his father "printed at his own expense the Shelley concordance compiled by F. S. Ellis, and the undertaking was an act of friendship on the part of Mr. Quaritch, who foresaw that the result would be a heavy financial loss to himself," our contributor writes:—

"Mr. Ellis told me that he paid the Clarendon Press bill for the book, 920*l*., besides binding, &c., and then went to Quaritch and offered him the whole edition for 500*l*., losing the 420*l*. and all his labour for Shelley's sake. Quaritch took the books at the 500*l*.; but whether that sum included the 102*l*. that he paid the Clarendon Press for the large-paper edition I cannot say, though I suppose it did. From the prices he sold the books at, I should think he made money by them; he surely cannot have lost much. If Mr. Quaritch can prove that his father printed the concordance at his own expense, he will surprise me."

THE descendants of John Eliot, the "Apostle of the Indians" and translator of the Indian Bible, have arranged for a celebration to take place on July 3rd next at South Natick, Massachusetts, in honour of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the foundation there of Eliot's village of "Praying Indians." South Natick is about sixteen miles from Boston. There will be an exhibition of relics, portraits, books, and manuscripts.

THE three-volume novel is now so much a matter of ancient history that its long vogue is difficult of comprehension. One of the attempts to kill it has just been unearthed by a correspondent from the *Quarterly Review* advertisement pages of September, 1853. In an announcement then published, Mr. Richard Bentley stated that, from October 1st, the price of all the new novels and romances by the most distinguished writers to be published by him would be "two-thirds less than the amount charged at present for these works." For instance, novels in three volumes would be published at half a guinea, instead of a guinea and a half; in two volumes at 7*s*., instead of 21*s*.; and in one volume at 3*s*. 6*d*., instead of 10*s*. 6*d*. How long this bold in-

novation lasted we do not know, probably not many seasons, but the fact itself is worth recording.

AN old friend of Mr. Frederick S. Ellis informs us that it was not from Mr. Rodd that he acquired his knowledge of books, but from Mr. Stewart, of King William Street, Strand. Mr. Ellis took pleasure in mentioning how much he was indebted to Mr. Stewart's influence, and would say that it was to him he owed his first love of books. Mr. Stewart regarded his stock with such affection that it seemed to cause him a pang when he had to part with any portion of it to a customer.

THE Secretary of State for India has agreed to some reconsideration of the plan for the reconstitution of Cooper's Hill College. It appears that the "long and exhaustive" report of the President of the College, recommending amongst other things the dismissal of seven members of the staff, was considered and agreed to by the Board of Visitors at a single sitting, held eleven days after the signing of the report.

ABERYSTWYTH UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, in accordance with its resolution to establish a Faculty of Law, has appointed Mr. T. A. Levi, B.C.L. of Oxford, to be Professor of English Law; and Mr. Jethro Brown, LL.D. of Cambridge, to be Professor of Constitutional and Comparative Law.

IN connexion with the Glasgow Exhibition, which is to be opened in the first week of May, there is to be an international "assembly" concerned with science, art, and education, on the model of that which was held in Paris last year.

A NEW novel by Mrs. Arthur Traherne, author of 'A Dutch Country House,' will shortly be published by Messrs. J. Baker & Son, entitled 'The Ghost of Tintern Abbey.'

IN our note on Felix Gras last week we did not say, what readers may care to know, that the following books by him were published in London by Mr. Heinemann simultaneously with the appearance of the American editions: 'The Reds of the Midi,' 'The Terror,' and 'The White Terror.'

WE understand that Messrs. Calmann Lévy are about to publish a volume of 'Grands Écrivains d'Outremanche' from the pen of Madame Duclaux (Miss Mary Robinson). These essays will deal with the Brontës, Thackeray, the Brownings, and Rossetti, taking up the thread of English literature where it is broken off in Taine's great book. Madame Duclaux is preparing another volume of studies from Disraeli to Mr. Kipling, in which the political aspect of literature will be predominant.

THE death is announced of Louis Duchosal, one of the most distinguished of the younger Swiss poets. Duchosal, who was only in his thirty-ninth year, and had been an invalid the greater part of his life, had published three volumes of poetry, and was a frequent contributor to the chief Geneva papers on subjects dealing with art and literature.

THE venerable Dr. Julius Otto Wiggers, the ecclesiastical historian of Mecklenburg, died last week at Rostock, in his ninetyeth year. He was born at Rostock in 1811, and, after studying theology and philology at the universities of Rostock, Berlin, and Bonn,

he was appointed professor in the theological faculty at Rostock in 1848. During the German revolutionary period he took so leading a part in the political turmoil that he was accused of high treason, suspended from his office, and condemned to forty-four months' imprisonment. After his release he lived as a private scholar in Rostock, where he wrote his long series of works on Mecklenburg Church history, a history of the constitutional struggles in the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, and a grammar of the "Plattddeutsch" dialect. He wrote also an Italian grammar in 1859, and a Spanish grammar in 1860, which appeared in a new edition in 1884. In 1877 his fellow-citizens elected him as their representative in the Reichstag.

THE German poetess Greta Baldauf was last summer a waitress in the restaurant "Zum Krokodil" at Baden-Baden. A notice of her poems in the literary supplement of the Munich *Allgemeine Zeitung* in July, 1900, was the means of procuring the author of the 'Lieder des Mädchens' a more agreeable situation. A new volume of her lyrics is now advertised under the title of 'Neue Lieder eines Mädchens aus dem Volke.' Mr. Bernard Shaw, in his amusing play 'You Never can Tell,' introduces a waiter of unusual talent. Here is a similar case in actual life; Mr. Shaw is not so far ahead of his time as he hoped, after all.

PROF. EMIL HÜBNER, whose death at Berlin in his sixty-seventh year is announced, was an eminent classical scholar, widely known for his services to the Latin 'Corpus' of Inscriptions, especially in the Spanish and English sections. Besides other contributions to epigraphy, he wrote 'Römische Herrschaft in Westeuropa,' and contributed with Mommsen and Vahlen to *Hermes* in the seventies. He was also in charge of the *Archäologische Zeitung* at Berlin from 1868 to 1872.

WE note the appearance of the following Parliamentary Papers: Accounts of the Duchy of Cornwall for the Year 1900 (1d.); List of School Boards and School Attendance Committees in England and Wales (9½d.); and Returns of Endowed Charities for the Parishes of Billingham, in the County of Durham (1½d.), and Leyland, in the County of Lancaster (3½d.).

SCIENCE

The Life of Sir John Fowler, Bart., Engineer.
By Thomas Mackay. (Murray.)

SIR JOHN FOWLER had the rare good fortune to commence his engineering career in 1834, when the construction of the earlier railways in England was beginning to give a great impetus to public works and to offer great openings for civil engineers; whilst, unlike some of the first pioneers of the railway system, such as Robert Stephenson and Isambard K. Brunel, who died prematurely, he lived to enjoy a ripe old age. Only dying in 1898, in his eighty-second year, after continuing his professional avocations almost till the last, he was enabled to take a share in some of the notable engineering triumphs which marked the closing period of the nineteenth century.

It is generally considered that very near relationship is somewhat of a disqualification for a biographer; but in this instance the relatives of Sir John Fowler have gone to the other extreme, and selected as his biographer a person who neither knew him personally nor is an engineer. In spite of these serious disadvantages, which the author frankly acknowledges in his preface, he has shown considerable literary ability in compiling an interesting memoir of a remarkable man of strongly marked character, though the record is necessarily devoid of engineering appreciation or criticism, and occasionally digresses into disquisitions more suitable for philosophers or political economists than engineers.

Mr. Fowler became a pupil of Mr. J. T. Leather at the early age of seventeen, only four years after the opening of the Manchester and Liverpool Railway; and having towards the close of his pupilage, and subsequently in responsible positions, been engaged in various railway undertakings, he had acquired sufficient experience and reputation by the time he was twenty-six to establish himself as an engineer on his own account in London, where he rapidly obtained a large practice in railway enterprises. A reminiscence of the railway mania is afforded by the story which Mr. Fowler was fond of telling of how, about this period, he was roused in the middle of the night, at his father's house near Sheffield, by the arrival of a railway promoter in a coach and four, with a cheque for 20,000*l.*, wishing him to undertake the survey of a line from Leeds to Glasgow only a few weeks before the date for the deposit of plans for Parliament.

His chief early work consisted in the laying out and construction of the group of railways eventually amalgamated into the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire system, which, with the recent extension to London, is now designated the Great Central Railway. The first work, however, which brought Mr. Fowler prominently into general public notice was the Metropolitan Railway, owing to its novel character, the interest created by the various schemes proposed for traversing London, its importance in facilitating communications through a crowded area, and the difficulties of its construction. This railway, of which a short portion was authorized in 1853, was commenced in 1860, and the first section opened in 1863; and the original line, the District Railway, and other extensions were carried out under the direction of Mr. Fowler as engineer. Moreover, at the close of his career he became associated, in the somewhat honorary position of consulting engineer, with some of those tube lines which are now so greatly extending underground communication through London and diverting traffic from the original underground railways.

Mr. Fowler, on settling in London, became a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, and was elected President in 1865, when he had attained a foremost position in his profession; and his presidential address dealt with the subject of the preliminary education of civil engineers, to the consideration of which he was doubtless led by the scanty opportunities he had himself enjoyed of early scientific training, and the desire that the rising generation of engineers should

not be exposed to the disadvantages which he had only overcome by hard work, force of character, powers of organization, and sound judgment in the selection of subordinates.

A holiday trip to Egypt in 1869, to recover from overwork, led to his being consulted by the Khedive Ismail on various proposals for the development of Egypt, mainly with reference to the extension of the cultivation and manufacture of sugar, a railway to Khartoum, and the irrigation of the Nile delta; but the railway, though begun, was stopped for want of funds early in 1878, after about one hundred miles had been more or less finished, and its completion has had to follow the reconquest of the Soudan. In 1883 Mr. Fowler elaborated a project, originally suggested by Ismail, for a sweet-water ship-canal from Alexandria to Suez, 240 miles long, in competition with the Suez Canal, one portion going from Alexandria to the Nile at Cairo, and the other starting on the opposite bank of the Nile and extending to Suez, being fed by the Nile (whose waters were also to be utilized for irrigation along the route), and provided with locks to overcome the difference of 39 feet between the level of low Nile at Cairo and sea-level, and the variable height of the river. The long circuitous route, however, the delays at the locks, and the difficulties of the passage of the Nile in high flood, would probably have prevented this proposed canal from becoming a serious rival of the enlarged Suez Canal. The varied information acquired during his connexion with Egypt, extending over a period of about ten years, and the surveys for the Soudan Railway, having been placed at the disposal of the British Government on the occasion of the occupation of Egypt, Mr. Fowler was made a K.C.M.G. in 1885, in recognition of his services.

In 1872 he brought forward a scheme for a Channel ferry, with steamers large enough to carry over a complete train, and hydraulic lifts for conveying the train on board and landing it on the opposite shore; but the opposition or apathy of the railway companies concerned in the matter, and doubts as to the wisdom of promoting the construction of a large harbour on the French coast opposite Dover, prevented the undertaking from receiving the assent of Parliament.

The crowning success of Sir John Fowler's career was the construction of the Forth Bridge, of which he and his partner, Sir Benjamin Baker, were joint engineers. This bridge, with two central spans of 1,710 feet, surpasses all previous bridges not only in span, but also in boldness and originality of design and in strength and stability. Such a structure results from the co-operation of several intellects, from the skill and resource of the contractors and their assistants entrusted with its erection; but undoubtedly Sir John Fowler's reputation gave confidence to the railway companies providing the funds and reliance to the contractors for the work; and on its successful completion Sir John Fowler received the honour of a baronetcy. His death severed a remarkable link with the past in the engineering profession, for, employed, as we have said, in the early

development of the railway system in England, he lived to see its marvellous extension in almost every part of the world; and whilst in middle life he witnessed Stephenson's Menai tubular bridge with spans of 459 feet, and Brunel's Saltash bridge with spans of 455 feet, hailed as wonderful engineering achievements, in his closing years he was personally concerned with the construction of a bridge boasting of spans nearly four times as great.

The biography of this eminent engineer, who was engaged in such a variety of important works, is comprised in a modest volume of 364 pages; and the very fact that it is not written by an engineer will probably render it the more acceptable to the general reader. Moreover, though it necessarily deals for the most part with popular descriptions of engineering works, many other topics are interspersed throughout the book, which is conveniently divided into chapters on special subjects, such as 'The Railway Engineer,' 'Professional Characteristics and Work,' 'Metropolitan Railway,' 'Egypt,' 'The Forth Bridge,' and 'The Engineer at Home.' The illustrations also, nineteen in number, though chiefly consisting of views of engineering works, with, very naturally, five plates relating to the Forth Bridge and three portraits of Sir John Fowler, are diversified by views of his Scottish home, 'The Recreations of a Statesman,' by Millais, and the 'Stag and Hinds' of Landseer.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

DR. STEIN, of the Indian Educational Service, writes from Ujat, Khotan, where he is on his tour of exploration in Eastern Turkestan. On the way there from Karghalik he visited some old sites of former settlements, but came to no striking conclusions except that the itinerary of Islam Akhun was not to be trusted. From Khotan the explorer proceeded to the head waters of the Yurungkash and Karakash rivers, a plan attempted by Capt. Deasy, but foiled by Chinese interference.

Dr. Stein was fortunate in obtaining help from the Amban of Khotan, and made a survey of the mountain-clad region, reaching close on 20,000 feet in height, which forms the watershed towards Western Tibet. The Yurungkash was followed up to where it passes a gorge inaccessible to man and beast round the Kuenlun Peak, No. 5, nearly 24,000 feet high. The cold even at 10,000 feet above the sea was intense.

From Karanghu Tagh, the highest inhabited valley, the party proceeded to the drainage area of the Karakash on a route new to Europeans. Dr. Stein claims to have connected his survey by triangulation with the Indian Survey system, and to have fixed the position of Khotan accurately for the first time. Observations were made with difficulty. At Ujat Dr. Stein proposed to examine the Gosringa mountain of Hiuen Tsiang and the old sites said to be adjacent, and later, after resting his guides, to start on a tour to the desert sites in a north and north-east direction.

The *Geographical Journal* publishes an account of the meeting held by the Royal Geographical Society in commemoration of the reign of Her late Majesty, Queen Victoria, on which occasion the President, Sir G. Taubman Goldie, and Col. Sir Thos. Holdich delivered eloquent addresses on the progress of exploration within the limits of the British Empire. The other papers are by Prof. J. Norman Collie, who reports on an excursion into the Canadian Rocky Mountains, which proved rather a failure, as the great ice-fields of Mount Columbia were not reached, but yielded important geographical and geo-

logical results; and by Sir John Murray, who presents a further instalment of his highly interesting report on the 'Bathymetrical Survey of the Fresh-Water Lochs of Scotland.' This report is illustrated by a number of beautifully tinted maps of lochs lying within the Forth and Tay basins.

The *Scottish Geographical Magazine* publishes the paper by Sir John Murray referred to above, as also a lecture by Mr. Alfred Sharpe on 'Trade and Colonization in British Central Africa.' The author, who, as H.M.'s Commissioner, has enjoyed exceptional opportunities for becoming acquainted with his subject, speaks very hopefully of the future of this part of Africa. Coffee-planting even now is a profitable undertaking, and only needs capital and labour for its further development. Tobacco has a promising future, and the cultivation of wheat is spreading. The time for European "colonization" will only come after some practicable means "are discovered of either preventing or greatly lessening the effects of malarial fevers."

Baron Erlanger, in the course of a journey to Abdera, the new capital of Jamjam, has discovered several additional lakes lying between the Zuwai and Abaya. The lakes fill cavities in the bottom of an ancient lake which in Tertiary times covered a vast extent of country, and above which rose several volcanoes, now extinct. Layers of shells were discovered by him one hundred feet above the present lake levels.

M. Levasseur, in the last number of the *Revue de Géographie*, recognizes in a few appropriate words the services rendered to geography by the late M. Ludovic Drapeyron, the founder of that journal twenty-five years ago and its editor up to the time of his death on January 9th last.

M. P. Chaudoir, in *Le Mouvement Géographique*, describes a visit to the remarkable stalagmite caves within a couple of hours' walk from Tanga in Eastern Africa. Passing through several chambers rising to a height of from 100 to 250 feet, he reached a vast saloon covering an area of 5,000 square yards. Millions of bats covered the roofs and interfered with the exploration of the narrower passages. One of these, killed with a stick, measured 4 ft. 10 in. across the wings.

The *Mittheilungen aus der Deutschen Schutzgebieten* publishes Herr von Beringe's account of an extended journey through the volcanic region to the north of Lake Kivu, together with a map, which very considerably extends our geographical knowledge of one of the most interesting parts of Africa. The author affirms that "Kirunga," that is, "lofty, reaching into the clouds," is the name rightly bestowed upon these volcanoes, every one of which has one or more native names. There was consequently no occasion for the fanciful nomenclature bestowed upon them by Mr. Grogan, which it is to be hoped will not find its way into maps and text-books.

Dr. G. Schweinfurth publishes in *Petermann's Mittheilungen* a map of the Nile valley between Farshut and Kom-Ombo, which is mainly based upon the maps published by the Egyptian Office of Works, but shows the edge of the western plateau in accordance with explorations carried on by the author in 1882. The same periodical publishes an article on Christian de Wet, in which the "English mercenaries" are not only charged with having destroyed towns, villages, and farms, but also with having "violated half-famished women, maltreated children and old men, and murdered defenceless boys." The more rabid Anglophobes may read such an article with satisfaction, but it is curious to meet with it in a publication which claims a high scientific character.

Prof. Krumbacher states in the last number of the *Byzantinische Zeitschrift* that a special Balkan Commission has been constituted by the Imperial Academy of Sciences in Vienna. It is

divided into two sections, one antiquarian, the other linguistic. The purpose of the Commission is a systematic exploration of the Balkan peninsula, with the help of the Treitl Fund, both in its historical-archæological and philological-ethnographical relations.

ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

NOVA PERSEI underwent a temporary increase of brightness on the night of the 10th inst., when it was noted by Mr. Lynn about 9^h 30^m to be fully equal to α in that constellation. At the meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society on the 8th it was stated that the star was not visible on a photograph taken by Mr. Stanley Williams at Hove twenty-eight hours before the discovery by Dr. Anderson on the morning of the 22nd ult. M. Deslandres studied its spectrum on the 25th (*Comptes Rendus*, March 4th), and found it similar to that of Nova Aurigæ, but with the difference that both the brilliant and the black rays were much broader, so that they may be called bands. The bright rays which correspond to hydrogen were wider and more diffused than those corresponding to calcium; all were displaced towards the red with reference to the terrestrial ray. M. Deslandres proposes two explanations of the phenomena observed:—

1. "L'astre présente au moins trois masses de gaz sous une pression notable qui ont, par rapport à nous, des vitesses différentes. Une des masses a une faible vitesse et renferme de l'hydrogène et du calcium. Les deux autres ne contiennent que de l'hydrogène; de plus, l'une des deux s'approche, alors que l'autre s'éloigne. Les vitesses de ces deux dernières masses sont très grandes en valeur absolue, mais sont différentes selon que ces masses sont supposées correspondre dans le spectre à des parties brillantes ou à des parties noires des raies bandes."

The other explanation:—

2. "Suppose now trois masses de gaz, mais une seule masse de gaz à très haute pression qui se meut à peine par rapport au soleil et est subitement le siège de phénomènes électriques intenses. La haute pression, d'après les expériences de M. M. Humphreys et Mohler, complètes par M. Wilsing, produit à la fois l'élargissement des raies et le déplacement de la raie bande vers le rouge."

Most of the parties of astronomers intending to observe the total solar eclipse of May 18th are now on their way to Sumatra and its neighbourhood. The Astronomer Royal will not go on the present occasion, but Mr. Dyson, one of the chief assistants at the Royal Observatory, will proceed to the west coast of Sumatra in the company of Mr. Newall, of Cambridge. Mr. and Mrs. Maunder will not start until next week, as their proposed place of observation is Mauritius; even there the totality will last nearly four minutes, its middle phase taking place at six minutes before 8 o'clock, local time, in the morning. Prof. D. P. Todd, of Amherst College, Mass., is now at Algiers, and hopes to obtain some valuable observations of the coronal streamers with a newly devised instrument called an "occultor" on the island of Sinkop, near the east coast of Sumatra and south-east of Singapore.

Astronomische Nachrichten, Nos. 3661-2, contain series of observations of small planets obtained by Mr. Coddington at the Lick Observatory and by MM. Rambaud and Sy at Algiers. The former include all the planets discovered by the late Prof. Watson except *Ethra*, No. 132, which was found on June 13th, 1873, and observed until the following July 5th, but has not since been seen, so that it must be regarded as lost. The eccentricity of its orbit is so great that it was calculated that it would come occasionally within the orbit of Mars.

We have received the tenth number of vol. xxix. of the *Memorie della Società degli Spettroscopisti Italiani*. It contains a note by Signor Chistoni on the temperature attributed to the sun by Newton; a paper by Prof. Wolfer (extracted from the *Publications* of the Zurich Observatory) on the existence, distribution, and movement of the principal presumed centres of solar activity; and a note by Prof.

Tacchini on the shooting stars of November, 1900.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Feb. 28.—Mr. W. H. M. Christie, V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary reported that on Saturday, February 23rd, the President, accompanied by the Treasurer, the Senior Secretary, Lord Lister, Lord Kelvin, Sir J. D. Hooker, and Mr. W. H. M. Christie, had proceeded to St. James's Palace and had the privilege of being admitted to the presence of the throne, and the honour of presenting to His Gracious Majesty an address of condolence and of homage, and that His Majesty had made a gracious reply.—The following papers were read: 'On the New Star in Perseus,' Preliminary Note, by Sir J. N. Lockyer, — 'On the Structure and Affinities of Fossil Plants from the Palæozoic Rocks: IV. The Seed-like Fructification of Lepidocarpon, a Genus of Lycopodiaceae Cones from the Carboniferous Formation,' by Dr. D. H. Scott, — 'A Preliminary Account of the Development of the Free-swimming Nauplius of *Leptodan hyalina*, Lillj.,' by Dr. E. Warren, — 'On the Result of Chilling Copper: Tin Alloys,' by Messrs. C. T. Heycock and F. H. Neville, — and 'On the Theory of Consistency of Logical Class-frequencies and its Geometrical Representation,' by Mr. G. Udny Yule.

March 7.—Sir W. Huggins, President, in the chair.—The Secretary read the list of candidates for election into the Society.—The following papers were read: 'Further Observations of Nova Persei,' by Sir J. N. Lockyer, — 'Some Physical Properties of Nitric Acid Solutions,' by Messrs. V. H. Veley and J. J. Manley, — 'The Anatomy of Symmetrical Double Monstrosities in the Trout,' by Dr. J. F. Gemmill, — 'Preliminary Communication on the Estrous Cycle and the Formation of the Corpus luteum in the Sheep,' by Mr. F. H. A. Marshall, — 'On the Composition and Variations of the Pelvic Plexus in *Acanthias vulgaris*,' by Mr. R. C. Punnett, — and 'On the Heat dissipated by a Platinum Surface at High Temperatures: IV. High-Pressure Gases,' by Mr. J. E. Petavel.

ASTRONOMICAL.—March 8.—Dr. J. W. L. Glaisher, President, in the chair.—Messrs. R. W. Chapman and C. J. Isaac were elected Fellows.—A photograph of the region of Nova Persei, taken by Mr. Stanley Williams on February 20th, only twenty-eight hours before its discovery, showed no trace of the new star, although giving stars as faint as the twelfth magnitude.—Dr. Lockyer exhibited photographs of the spectrum of the Nova, compared with those of a Persei and a Cygni, the latter of which it much resembled. The spectrum showed dark lines of hydrogen and also bright hydrogen bands displaced towards the red, which appeared to indicate the existence of two sources of light, and enormous relative velocities.—Mr. McClean exhibited a photograph of the spectrum which showed lines of hydrogen, calcium, iron, &c., but apparently no trace of helium. The spectrum of the Nova appeared to him of the same type as that of Sirius, but with bright bands of hydrogen. It also greatly resembled the spectrum of Nova Aurigæ.—A photograph of the spectrum taken at Stonyhurst was shown, and Mr. Newall exhibited and described photographs showing details of a portion of the spectrum.—Dr. Rambaut gave the results of eye observations of magnitude made at the Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford. The colour of the Nova was bluish-white at first, but became redder as it diminished in brightness.—The Astronomer Royal showed a series of photographs taken at the Royal Observatory. The magnitude of the Nova had diminished gradually, but not quite regularly, from magnitude 0.5 on February 25th to 3.1 on March 6th.—Mr. Bellamy gave a series of measures of the position of the Nova from a photograph taken at the University Observatory, Oxford.—Mr. Bryan Cookson described a new form of zenith telescope, in which the verticality of the axis was obtained by floating the supports of the telescope in a bath of mercury.—Other papers were taken as read.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—March 6.—Dr. W. de Gray Birch in the chair.—Some pewter plates of about the middle of the eighteenth century, having an unusual pattern and bearing the maker's marks (Spackman's) upon them, were exhibited. The coat of arms resembles that of Castile, and probably represents the institution or company to which the plates belonged. They were exhibited by Mrs. Collier.—Mr. T. S. Bush exhibited a photograph of a curious circular wooden money chest, or box, now belonging to St. Peter's Church, Bristol. The box is 6½ inches in diameter outside, and 5 inches inside, and is 6½ inches high to the top of the cover, which is raised, or pie-shaped. The box is bound with iron, hinged at the back, and has a strap over the

cover with a top plate and ring; the strap is hinged at the front and carried down to the bottom band, forming a hasp over the lock-plate, which has three keyholes: one on each side of the strap, or hasp, and one at the bottom, smaller than the other two. There is no slit in the top for dropping in coins, and the box was most probably used for keeping money previously collected, the three locks being for the incumbent and the two churchwardens, so that the box could not be opened except in the presence of all three. It is said by some people that this curious relic belonged to the mint at Bristol, which adjoined the church, and existed from 1643 to 1693. The box, however, would seem to belong to the second half of the sixteenth century.—A paper was read by the Rev. H. J. Dukinfield Astley, hon. editorial secretary, upon 'A Ramble round Thetford,' a quaint and fascinating old Norfolk town, or perhaps it should be called city, for it was once an episcopal see. An air of unmistakable antiquity seems to pervade the place, as one wanders through the narrow winding ways and notices the many remains of ancient religious buildings, now, alas! demolished, but still bearing evidence, in their scattered fragments built up in modern dwellings, of the importance of the town in olden times. In the fourteenth century Thetford possessed twenty churches, besides other religious buildings. Thetford is partly in Norfolk and partly in Suffolk, being situated at the confluence of the Little Ouse and the Thet. The local authorities of to-day do not appear to possess much regard for the antiquities of their historic town, as, in spite of protests, they have recently pulled down the old Guildhall. Thetford has a very ancient history, going far back into the dim and misty past, when the devious and winding ways leading down to the riverside were cut through the primeval forest by the old Euskarian or Iberian hunters of Neolithic days. In later times the powerful and warlike Iceni settled there; and when the Romans came and acquired the Iceni-ian realm they found the place pleasant to look upon, as it is to-day, and there they built a town, generally supposed to have been that known as Sitomagus, an important station thirty-one miles from Venta Icenorum, now Castor by Norwich, on the direct line of the Ick-nod Way to London, as Antonine's Itinerary describes it. The Roman remains as yet discovered at Thetford are neither numerous nor important, though there is little doubt as to the identification of the site of the Roman town. The tradition of many an ancient battle fought between the Romans, Britons, and Anglians, and afterwards between the Anglians and Danes, still lingers in the rustic mind. The great mound at Thetford known as the Castle Hill is said to have been thrown up by the Danes, whose occupation of Thetford was confirmed by Alfred in his treaty with Guthrum, and Thetford became so thoroughly Danish that it is noted as one of those places which never paid Dane-geld. It was in the reign of William the Conqueror that Thetford became, for a brief period, a bishop's see, and in 1091 the great East Anglian church builder, Herbert de Losinga, succeeded as third bishop. He did not, however, long remain at Thetford, as in 1094 he removed the see to Norwich.—In the discussion which followed the paper Mr. Gould remarked that the tradition assigning the erection of the great mound to the Danes is very probably correct; but these mound and court forts were erected by Saxons, Danes, and Normans, and belong to the ninth, tenth, and eleventh centuries.—Mr. Crompton considered that undoubtedly Thetford was the site of a Roman station, but he thought that neither Thetford nor Woolpit is the successor of Sitomagus, but that that site is to be sought somewhere in the neighbourhood.—The Chairman said the paper was an admirable illustration of the use to be made of archaeological research during a day's outing in the country.—Mr. Astley, in replying, mentioned, as an undoubted proof of the post-Roman (to say no more) date of the mound and court forts, the fact that the Castle mound at Norwich, which tradition also ascribes to the Danes, stands right on the track of the Roman road from Caistor to Brancaster, as was ascertained during the course of some recent excavations, when the Roman road was discovered running right across the centre of the mound.—A plan of Thetford Priory, several early editions of antiquarian works of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and a fine series of drawings of the 'Old Halls and Manor Houses of Norfolk,' by the late Mr. E. P. Willmott, illustrated the paper.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—March 6.—Sir H. H. Howarth, President, in the chair.—The President submitted to the meeting an address of condolence to His Majesty the King on the death of the late Queen, and of congratulations on His Majesty's accession to the throne, which was approved.—Mr. C. E. Keyser described, with the aid of lantern-slides and enlarged photographs, about 160 examples of

the sculptured tympana of the Norman doorways of our English churches. He stated that his object was to enable his audience to see as many examples as possible of his subject, and not to enter on any general argument as to the origin of these sculptures or the craftsmen by whom they were executed. He therefore merely gave the name of each example as it appeared on the screen, with a brief explanation of some of the more obscure subjects represented, pointing out two or three groups which had been severally executed in the same workshop. The chief subjects represented were as follows: architectural ornament; crosses of various forms, either singly or in groups; trees or foliage, sometimes with animals; the Tree of Life (typifying the Cross), alone or flanked by animals; the Agnus Dei, alone or worshipped by animals; Sagittarius and Leo; St. Michael and the Dragon; St. George at Antioch; the legend of St. Margaret; Christ with SS. Peter and Paul; the Majesty with the Evangelistic symbols; the Majesty borne by angels, typifying the Ascension; and the entry into Jerusalem. There were also exhibited nearly 200 bromide enlargements, arranged on the walls and screens round the room.

ZOOLOGICAL.—March 5.—Mr. W. T. Blanford, V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the menagerie during February, and called special attention to an example of the august amazon (*Chrysotis augusta*) acquired by purchase, and to a specimen of the guinea-fowl from Rabat in Morocco (*Numida meleagris*), presented by Mr. G. E. Nerourtos. The report also contained a list of the specimens of the quagga (*Equus quagga*), three in number, that had lived in the gardens since their establishment.—A report was read, drawn up by Mr. A. Thomson, the assistant-superintendent of the gardens, on the insects exhibited in the insect-house during 1900, and a series of the specimens was laid upon the table.—Mr. Slater exhibited, on behalf of Capt. Stanley Flower, photographs of a young female giraffe, a young male white oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), and a male ostrich, with the vocal sac extended, which had been taken from examples living in the Zoological Garden at Ghizeh.—There were exhibited, on behalf of Dr. Einar Lönnberg, two photographs of a skull of the musk-ox from East Greenland.—Dr. Smith Woodward read a paper on some remains of extinct reptiles obtained from Patagonia by the La Plata Museum. They included the skull and other remains of a remarkably armoured chelonian, Miolania, which had previously been discovered only in superficial deposits in Queensland and in Lord Howe's Island, off the Australian coast. The genus was now proved to be Pleurodiran. There was also a considerable portion of the skeleton of a large extinct snake, apparently of the primitive genus of the South American family Ilysiidae. Along with these remains were found the well-preserved jaws of a large carnivorous dinosaur, allied to Megalosaurus. Either the dinosaurian reptiles must have survived to a later period in South America than elsewhere, or geologists must have been mistaken as to the age of the formation in which the other reptiles and extinct mammals occurred. The discovery of Miolania in South America seemed to favour the theory of a former Antarctic continent; but it should be remembered that in late Secondary and early Tertiary times the Pleurodiran chelonians were almost cosmopolitan. Future discovery might thus perhaps explain the occurrence of Miolania in South America and Australia, in the same manner as the occurrence of *Ceratodus* in these two regions was already explained.—Mr. R. I. Pocock read a paper containing descriptions of six new species of trapdoor spiders from China. One of these, *Holoprocus ricketti*, was remarkable as constituting a new genus of a specialized group of Ctenizidae, hitherto known only from the Sonoran area of North America. Another, *Latouchia fassoria*, also a new genus, was a more typical Ctenizoid.—Mr. R. H. Burne read a paper on the innervation of the supraorbital canal in the sea-cat (*Chimæra monstrosa*), in which he showed that the two lateral line sense-organs of the supraorbital canal (stated by Cole to be innervated in this fish by a branch of the *ophthalmicus profundus* V., which would thus form an exception to the otherwise universal innervation of the supraorbital canal by the seventh nerve) received their nerve-filaments from a compound nerve formed by the union of a branch of the *profundus* V. with two twigs derived from the *ophthalmicus superficialis* VII. in all probability were distributed to the two lateral line organs, which brought them, as regards their innervation, into harmony with the other organs of the supraorbital canal, while the fibres belonging to the *profundus* probably formed the small branches that innervated the skin in this region.—Mr. F. E. Beddard read descriptions of certain new or little-known earthworms belonging to the genera *Polytoreutus* and *Typhceus*.

He also described the clitellum and spermatophores in the annelid *Alma stuhlmanni*.

CHEMICAL.—*March 7.*—Dr. Perkin, V.P., in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'Nomenclature of the Acid Esters of Unsymmetrical Dibasic Acids,' 'Additive Compounds of α - and β -Naphthylamine with Trinitrobenzene Derivatives,' and 'Acetylation of Arylamines,' by Mr. J. J. Sudborough; 'Formation of Amides from Aldehydes,' by Messrs. R. H. Pickard and W. Carter; 'A Method of Isolating Maltose from an Excess of Glucose,' by Mr. A. Croft Hill; 'Influence of Sodium Sulphate on the Vapour Pressure of Aqueous Ammonia Solution,' and 'The Vapour Pressure of Aqueous Ammonia Solution,' by Mr. E. P. Perman; 'The Formation of Aromatic Compounds from Glutamic Acid and its Derivatives; the Reduction of Trimesic Acid and the Conversion of Tetrahydrotrimesic Acid into Tetrahydro-isophthalic Acid,' by Messrs. W. T. Lawrence and W. H. Perkin, jun.; 'Optical Activity of Certain Organic Bodies,' by Mr. P. A. Guye, and 'Halogen-substituted Thiosinamines,' and 'A Form of Tautomerism occurring among the Thiocyanates of Electronegative Radicles,' by Mr. A. E. Dixon.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—*March 11.*—Sir F. Bramwell in the chair.—Major P. Cardew delivered the opening lecture of his course of *Cantor Lectures on 'Electric Railways.'*

March 12.—Mr. T. G. Jackson in the chair.—A paper on 'Some Examples of Romanesque Architecture in North Italy' was read before the Applied Art Section by Mr. Hugh Stannus, and was fully illustrated by photographs and lantern-slides.

March 13.—Sir W. Preece in the chair.—A paper on 'The Proposed High-Speed Electrical "Monorail" between Liverpool and Manchester' was read by Mr. F. B. Behr.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—*March 12.*—Mr. J. Mansergh, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'The Aesthetic Treatment of Bridge Structures,' by Mr. J. Husband.

ARISTOTELIAN.—*March 11.*—Mr. S. H. Hodgson, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. A. Boutwood read a paper on 'A Scientific Monism.' The paper was a criticism of the theories put forward by Prof. Haeckel in 'The Riddle of the Universe.' A discussion followed, in which the Chairman, Dr. Johnstone Stoney, and others took part.

PHYSICAL.—*March 8.*—Dr. R. T. Glazebrook, Foreign Secretary, in the chair.—A paper on 'A Theory of Colloidal Solutions' was read by Dr. F. G. Donnan.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

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| Mon. | Geographical, 4j.—'The Topography of South Victoria Land,' Mr. L. C. Bernacchi. |
| — | Surveyors' Institution, 7.—'Income Tax, Schedule A,' Mr. L. S. Wood. (Junior Meeting.) |
| — | Society of Arts, 8.—'Electric Railways,' Lecture II., Major P. Cardew. (Cantor Lectures.) |
| Tues. | Royal Institution, 3.—'The Cell as the Unit of Life,' Lecture IV., Dr. A. Macfadyen. |
| — | Statistical, 5. |
| — | Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—Discussion on 'The Aesthetic Treatment of Bridge Structures.' |
| — | Zoological, 8j.—'New or Imperfectly Known Ostracoda, chiefly from a Collection in the Zoological Museum, Copenhagen,' Dr. G. S. Brady; 'Leaves mousses and L. rubicenter,' Dr. C. I. Forsyth Major; 'The Hymenoptera collected in New Britain by Dr. A. Willey,' Mr. P. Cameron. |
| Wed. | Meteorological, 7j.—'Climate, and the Effects of Climate,' Dr. H. R. Mill. |
| — | Society of Arts, 8.—'Evolution of Form in English Silver Plate,' Mr. P. T. Macquoid. |
| — | Microscopical, 8.—'Demonstration on the Metallography of Iron and Steel,' Mr. W. H. Merrett. |
| — | Folk-lore, 8.—'Sand Ropes, and other Fiddle Tasks,' Miss G. M. Gooden. |
| — | Geological, 8.—'A Remarkable Volcanic Vent of Tertiary Age in the Island of Arran, enclosing Mesozoic Fossiliferous Rocks,' Messrs. B. N. Peach, W. Gunn, and E. T. Newton; 'The Character of the Upper Coal-Measures of North Staffordshire,' Mr. W. Gibson. |
| — | Entomological, 8. |
| — | British Archaeological Association, 8.—'Chaucer as an Illustrator of Medieval England,' Rev. W. S. Lach-Seymour. |
| Thurs. | Royal Institution, 3.—'Shakespeare in Relation to his Contemporaries in Art,' Lecture I., Sir Wyke Bayliss. |
| — | Royal, 4j. |
| — | Linnean, 8.—'The Intestinal Tract of Birds, and the Valuation and Nomenclature of Zoological Characters,' Mr. F. Chalmers Mitchell. |
| — | Chemical, 8.—'Researches on Morphine,' Part II., Messrs. S. R. Schryver and F. H. Lees; 'The Constitution of Phthalocarpine,' Part II., Mr. H. A. D. Jowett; 'Note on the Latent Heats of Evaporation of Liquids,' Mr. H. Crompton; 'Action of Dry Silver Oxide and Ethyl Iodide on Benzoylchloride Ester, Deoxybenzoin, and Benzyl Cyanide,' and 'Alkylation of Acetylamines,' Mr. G. B. Lander. |
| — | Society of Antiquaries, 8j. |
| Fri. | Physical, 5.—'The Expansion of Silica,' Prof. Callendar; 'The Spectroscopic Apparatus at University College,' Dr. E. C. C. Baly. |
| — | Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—'The Hunslet Railway, and Bridge over the River Aire,' Mr. O. L. McDermott. (Students' Meeting.) |
| — | Royal Institution, 9.—'Some Recent Work on Diffusion,' Mr. H. T. Brown. |
| Sat. | Royal Institution, 3.—'Sound and Vibrations,' Lecture V., Lord Rayleigh. |

Science Gossip.

At Edinburgh the Chair of Natural Philosophy will be vacated by Prof. Tait on April 29th. The patronage of the chair is vested in the Curators, and applications, with relative testimonials, should be lodged with Mr. R. Herbert Johnston, secretary to the Curators, 4, Albany Place, Edinburgh, on or before June 1st.

The 'Life of Pasteur,' by his son-in-law, M. Valléry-Radot, which we reviewed last autumn, is being translated into English, and will very shortly be published by Messrs. Constable & Co. in England and the McClure Phillips Company in the United States.

Prof. Engler, Director of the Royal Botanical Gardens in Berlin, hopes to spend some weeks in studying the flora of the Canary Islands; while the traveller Joseph Bornmiller, who collected plants there last year, is about to return thither, in order to pay special attention to the flora of the eastern islands.

Dr. Koch intends, in conjunction with the German Colonial Office, to organize various expeditions into German Africa, for the purpose of carrying on investigations into the origin of malaria. He will direct the work from Berlin.

ARRANGEMENTS are now nearly completed for the opening of the Musée Océanographique at Monaco. Here will be deposited all the collections made by the Prince during the voyages of the *Hirondelle* and *Princesse Alice*. Dr. Jules Richard has been appointed director of the new museum.

The death on the 6th ult. of Christian F. Lütken, many years Professor of Zoology in the University of Copenhagen, ought not to pass without notice in this country. Not only were his memoirs of fauna of the Arctic and Atlantic Oceans highly esteemed in this country, but he was for many years one of the most energetic and certainly one of the ablest of the staff of our 'Zoological Record.' Prof. Lütken died at the age of seventy-three, after a long illness.

FINE ARTS

THE CRETAN SCRIPT.

In his first article on the Cretan script (*Journal of Hellenic Studies*, xiv., part ii., 1894) Mr. Evans republished (p. 355) an inscription from Prasos, consisting of five short lines in Greek characters, but in a language which is apparently neither Indo-European nor Semitic. "We may fairly conclude," Mr. Evans writes, "that the language here found represents that of the Eteocretans, and it is reasonable to suppose that this was the original language of the early [pictographic] script." It is therefore of importance to discover the linguistic affinities of the Prasos inscription, both for the ethnology of the Eteocretan race and as a possible aid in deciphering the two new scripts. The inscription is transliterated by Mr. Evans as follows:—

... NKALMITK.
OS | BARXE | A ... O
ARK. APSET | MEG.
ARKKOKLES | GEP [?]
ASEPGNANAIT

The points represent the probable number of letters missing. After careful examination and comparison of the facsimiles given by Mr. Evans and Compert, I came to the following conclusions: (a) that no considerable part of the stone is lost; (b) that BARXE is probably a proper name, and denotes the person with whom the inscription is chiefly concerned, since it is marked off on both sides by the dividing line; (c) that ARK, or ARKR, probably means son. With so little material it seemed hopeless to attempt any further solution. Recently, however, I happened to be reading some Chere-

mission folk-tales in the *Journal de la Société Finno-Ougrienne*, vol. xiii., when it occurred to me that the mysterious Prasos inscription must be composed in an early Ugro-Finnic language; and further investigation seemed to confirm the conjecture. Taking the unmutated words only, KALMIT (l. 1) from *kal*, the root of the words for death, would mean tomb, as Finnish *kalma*, Votiak *kalmot*, and Estonian *kalmuti*; ARK[R] (ll. 3 and 4), son, Finnish *yrkä*, a youth, cf. Cheremissian *erge*, the usual word for son; GEP... (l. 4) may be a formation from the root *kap*, to heap up, hence a tumulus, cf. Estonian *käpa*, Votiak *chäppi*, a sepulchral mound, and Finn. *kupera*, swelling, rounded; *sep* is given by Donner ('Vergleichendes Wörterbuch,' pp. 91, sqq.) as the original form of the root meaning to protect, Ostiak *shaviyita*, Finnish *suojan*, &c., while the optative third singular in Finnish ends in *-koon*; SEPGN would, therefore, mean "let him protect." It would be unsafe, though not difficult, to make suggestions for the missing words, but the general sense of the inscription seems to be "[This is] the tomb.....of Barxe.....son of Apset (?)......son of Kokles. May Anait protect the mound." The *AI* in the last word is uncertain: perhaps it is only a correction, *i* being carved over *A*; in any case it is unlikely that we have here the name Anaitis. The details may be doubtful, and until we have further material I offer my explanation as a mere conjecture, and refrain from speculating on the conclusions which might be drawn from it if it is confirmed. There is at any rate no antecedent improbability in the presence of a non-Aryan race in Crete or Southern Europe in Mycenaean times. The obvious danger of attempting to explain an inscription, perhaps 3,000 years old, by means of modern dialects, is lessened by the fact that phonetic decay is much less operative in this class of languages than in the Aryan family, and also that its action can be detected by the help of the many widely separated, but closely related dialects. A. COWLEY.

THE BLYTH ENGRAVINGS.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 11th inst. the following engravings after Sir J. Reynolds from the collection of the late Mr. H. A. Blyth: Mrs. Abington as the Comic Muse, by J. Watson, 173l.; Lady Bampfylde, by T. Watson, 924l.; Lady Beaumont, by J. R. Smith, 81l.; Francis, Duke of Bedford, with his Brothers and Miss Vernon, by V. Green, 75l.; Hon. Mrs. Beresford, with the Marchioness Townsend and the Hon. Mrs. Gardner, by T. Watson, 462l.; Hon. Mrs. Bouverie and her Child, by J. Watson, 60l.; Master Braddyll, by J. Grozer, 88l.; Duchess of Buccleuch with her Daughter, by J. Watson, 315l.; Lady Sarah Bunbury sacrificing to the Graces, by E. Fisher, 120l.; Miss Cholmondeley, by J. Marchi, 54l.; Mrs. Crewe as St. Genevieve, by T. Watson, 75l.; Master Crewe as Henry VIII., by J. R. Smith, 105l.; Lady Elizabeth Compton, by V. Green, 136l.; Lady Betty Delmé and her Children, by the same, 966l.; Duchess of Devonshire with her Daughter, by G. Keating, 73l.; David Garrick between Comedy and Tragedy, by E. Fisher, 102l.; David Garrick, by J. Watson, 80l.; Miss Greenway, by the same, 75l.; Lady Hamilton as a Bacchante, by J. R. Smith, 252l.; Mrs. Hardinge, by T. Watson, 69l.; Jane, Countess of Harrington, by V. Green, 210l.; Miss Frances Harris, by J. Grozer, 189l.; Lady Elizabeth Herbert and her Son, by J. Dean, 288l.; another example, 315l.; Miss Ingram as Ariadne, by W. Doughty, 75l.; Miss Jacobs, by J. Spilsbury, 178l.; Miss Frances Kemble, in white dress, by J. Jones, 157l.; Miss Kemble, in black dress, by the same, 102l.; Duchess of Manchester and her Son as Diana and Cupid, by J. Watson, 115l.; The Marlborough Family, by C. Turner, 63l.; Lady Caroline Montagu as Winter, by J. R. Smith,

120*l.*; Mrs. Morris, by the same, 50*l.*; Mrs. Musters as Hebe, by C. H. Hodges, 241*l.*; Mrs. Musters, by J. R. Smith, 399*l.*; Lady O'Brien, by J. Dixon, 162*l.*; Miss Theophila Palmer, by J. R. Smith, 96*l.*; Mrs. Payne-Galloway and Child, by the same, 304*l.*; Mrs. Pelham feeding Chickens, by W. Dickinson, 341*l.*; Lady Catherine Pelham-Clinton, by J. R. Smith, 987*l.*

The sale was continued on the 12th. After Sir J. Reynolds: Lady Caroline Price, by J. Jones, 190*l.*; Mrs. Robinson as Perdita, by W. Dickinson, 115*l.*; Duchess of Rutland, by V. Green, 1,050*l.*; Countess of Salisbury, by the same, 472*l.*; Madame Schindlerin, by J. R. Smith, 63*l.*; Mrs. Sheridan as St. Cecilia, by W. Dickinson, 252*l.*; Mrs. Siddons as the Tragic Muse, by F. Howard, 147*l.*; Georgiana, Viscountess Spencer, and her Daughter, by J. Watson, 81*l.*; Countess Talbot, by V. Green, 220*l.*; Col. Tarleton, by J. R. Smith, 54*l.*; Lady Taylor, by W. Dickinson, 194*l.*; Hon. Mrs. Tollemache as Miranda, by J. Jones, 99*l.*; The Ladies Elizabeth Laura, Charlotte Maria, and Anna Horatia Waldegrave, by V. Green, 525*l.*; After G. Romney: Caroline, Duchess of Marlborough, by J. Jones, 105*l.*; Louisa, Lady Stormount, by J. R. Smith, 173*l.*; Henrietta, Countess of Warwick, by the same, 178*l.*; Mrs. Frances Woodley, by J. Walker, 157*l.*; After T. Gainsborough: Signora Bacelli, by J. Jones, 50*l.*; After J. Hoppner: Duchess of Bedford, by S. W. Reynolds, 194*l.*; Miss Crockett, by J. Dean, 98*l.*; The Douglas Children ('Juvenile Retirement') and The Hoppner Children ('Children Bathing'), by J. Ward, 378*l.*; The Ladies Frankland, by W. Ward, 131*l.*; Lady Charlotte Greville, by J. Young, 105*l.*; another example, 96*l.*; Mrs. Hoppner, with basket of flowers, by J. Dean, 126*l.*; Mrs. Hoppner as Sophia Western, by R. Smith, 75*l.*; Lady Anne Lambton and Family, by J. Young, 210*l.*; Lady Louisa Manners in Peasant's Dress, by C. Turner, 131*l.*; Lady Mildmay and Child, by W. Say, 378*l.*; Mrs. Orby Hunter, by J. Young, 88*l.*; Mrs. Young, by the same, 189*l.*; After Sir P. Lely: The Beauties of Windsor, by T. Watson, set of six portraits, 90*l.*; After F. Cotes: Masters Joseph and John Gulston, by V. Green, 75*l.*; After D. Gardner: Mrs. Gwynne and Mrs. Banbury, by W. Dickinson, 105*l.*

SALE.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 9th inst. the following, from the collection of the late Mr. W. Hammond. Drawings: B. Foster, On the Lagoons, Venice, looking towards the Doge's Palace, 210*l.*; Martello Tower at Hastings, 178*l.*; The Village, Evening, 60*l.*; The Beach at Bonchurch, 173*l.*; Cottage at Wheelershit, Witley, 99*l.*; The First Voyage, 141*l.*; Sandcart, Hambleton Common, 126*l.*; G. A. Fripp, Eelboats on the Thames, 129*l.*; Sir J. Gilbert, The King's Trumpeter, 304*l.*; A. C. Gow, The Cardplayers, 241*l.*; The Baggage Wagon, 220*l.*; On the Road to the Frontier, 194*l.*; The Rout of an Army, 126*l.*; On the Look-out, 52*l.*; Old Campaigners, 63*l.*; W. Hunt, The Beggar Boy, 58*l.*; Quince and Purple Grapes, 65*l.*; Wild Rose and Bird's Nest, 141*l.*; White May and Hedge-sparrow's Nest, 141*l.*; Apples and Purple Grapes, 50*l.*; J. Israëls, A Peasant Woman and Child, 89*l.*; B. Rivière, Much Ado about Nothing, 86*l.*; J. Trayer, Breakfast, 50*l.*; Pictures: P. J. Clays, A Dutch River Scene, 252*l.*; H. W. B. Davis, Cattle on the Banks of a Stream, 173*l.*; E. De-taille, The Mounted Trooper, 168*l.*; A. Schreyer, Algerian Horsemen crossing a Ford, 441*l.*; Crossing the Ford, 231*l.*

The following were from various collections. Drawings: B. Foster, Punt Fishing, 50*l.*; J. M. W. Turner, Buckfastleigh Abbey, 840*l.*; T. B. Hardy, Vessels leaving Calais, 59*l.*; P. De Wint, Bolton Abbey, 472*l.*; C. Fielding, View over a Valley, 78*l.*; Pictures: W. Bouguereau, Head of a Young Girl, 168*l.*; Head of a

Greek Girl, 136*l.*; A. Pasini, An Arab Caravan crossing the Desert, 120*l.*; A. Schreyer, A Heavy Load, 756*l.*; Lady Alma Tadema, Choosing the Wedding Gown, 115*l.*; F. Voltz, A Landscape, herd of cattle at a ford, 168*l.*; Cattle Watering, 120*l.*

Fine-Art Gossip.

THE Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours announce the private view of their show to-day; it will be open to the public on Monday.—Yesterday was the press view of the Society of Miniaturists, who are also exhibiting at the Royal Institute Galleries specimens of their now fashionable art.

Mr. W. WESTLEY MANNING has issued invitations to a private view of his paintings and drawings, entitled 'Afloat and Ashore,' which are from to-day (Saturday) on view at the Continental Gallery, 157, New Bond Street.

THE receiving day for pictures intended for the forthcoming exhibition of the New English Art Club at the Dudley Gallery, Piccadilly, is fixed for Monday, April 1st, and the jury has been elected as follows: Mr. Francis Bate, Mr. P. Wilson Steer, Prof. Brown, Mr. Charles Conder, Mr. W. Rothenstein, Mr. George Thornton, Mr. James L. Henry, Mr. David Muirhead, Mr. A. S. Hartick, Mr. Bernhard Sickert, Mr. R. E. Fry, Mr. A. W. Rich, and Mr. Moffat Lindner. Those who do not belong to the club have to procure the written invitation of two members and to submit not more than two works to the jury. The private view of the exhibition will be on April 6th.

THE Royal Academy will be opened this year on Monday, the 6th of May next; and the Salon on Wednesday, the 1st of that month.

THE annual exhibition of the Women's International Art Club will take place at the Grafton Galleries from March 18th to April 3rd.

WE are glad to hear that, for the present at least, nothing is definitely settled as to the destruction of Hogarth House, Chiswick, one of the few remaining historic relics of artistic and literary interest in the west of London. The matter has been under consideration during some months; indeed, the site may be said to force itself upon the enterprising builder. It is proposed to destroy the house and appropriate the garden attached to it, where several relics of the artist still exist. On the ground it would be easy to erect houses and form a thoroughfare, thus completely abolishing the last of the landmarks of Hogarth during his life. On the other hand, the present proprietor wishes to preserve as many as may be of these relics, and to sell them for that purpose at not more than their commercial value. Some of the local authorities propose to widen the road at the side of the house as it now stands, and with this view are willing to demolish the whole structure, although on the opposite side of the road there is nothing more interesting than a few small cottages. Some time ago an enthusiast from the United States proposed to carry the whole thing off to the other side of the Atlantic. The price of the estate is reported to be 1,000*l.* Nearly the whole of the interest of this sum might be secured in the form of rent from a tenant. If anything is to be done in the way of preserving the place, it must be done at once.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS will sell by auction on Tuesday, the 26th, a valuable collection of old Damascus, Rhodian, Persian, and Anatolian *faïence* formed by the late Mr. Charles Elton, Q.C. Many of the pieces were exhibited at the Burlington Fine-Arts Club in the Exhibition of Persian and Arabian Art in 1885. At the same time will be sold some antique terra-cotta statuettes from Tanagra and Asia Minor. The collection will be on view on Saturday, the 23rd, and on Monday, the 25th.

WHILE the question of admitting lady lawyers to their ranks is being debated by the Scottish legal officials, the Royal Scottish Academy has raised the question whether ladies are eligible for its membership. They are not mentioned in the charter either as being or not being eligible, so that the matter will probably cause discussion for some considerable time. Meanwhile the members of the Academy have resolved to appoint three new painter associates at a meeting to be held on the 20th inst.

MR. WALTER CRANE increases daily in popularity in German art circles, and a considerable "Crane-Litteratur" has been in course of production since the publication of Von Berlepsch's essay (1897) and Dr. Peter Jessen's 'Katalog der Crane'schen Werke im Berliner Kunstgewerbe-Museum.' The 'Modernes Kunstgewerbe,' just published by Heitz & Mundel in Strasburg, has a long essay upon Mr. Walter Crane by W. Fred, who describes him as the last and not the least of the Pre-Raphaelites. An account is given of his socialistic views, and of the influence of such dogmas upon his art. Herr Fred expresses his obligations to W. Schölermann's 'Walter Crane,' which appeared in vol. viii. of the *Zeitschrift für bildende Kunst*.

WE learn from Brussels that an exhibition of old Flemish masters will be held in Bruges this year. The town of Bruges has subscribed 10,000 francs, and the Government has promised its support. As the various churches and public and private owners of pictures are prepared to put their collections at the promoter's disposition, the exhibition seems likely to be an interesting one.

THE landscape painter Otto Reinhold Jacobi, whose death in his eighty-ninth year is announced from Dakota, filled the position of President of the Royal Canadian Academy several times. He was born in Königsberg, and after studying in Berlin and Düsseldorf, was attached for some years to the service of the Duke of Nassau as Court painter. In 1866 he went to Canada, where his works attained great popularity.

THE death is reported of Charles François Jalabert, a French painter of historical and religious subjects. M. Jalabert was born at Nîmes on January 1st, 1819, and he was represented at the Salon of 1847 by a picture of Virgil reading his *Georgics*, which is now at the Luxembourg. During the Second Empire M. Jalabert's pictures were very popular, one of the most successful being his 'Christ aux Oliviers,' 1855. He was one of the few surviving pupils of Paul Delaroche. Although he continued to work almost up to the last, his popularity had long since passed into tradition—as he himself recognized. He was the rival of Cabanel. Some of the most celebrated ladies of his time gave him sittings, and his portraits were occasionally admirable.

MR. A. NIEMIROWSKI writes from Poland:—"I regret to announce the death at Warsaw, at the age of seventy, of A. Gerson, the celebrated Polish painter. The deceased artist initiated the permanent exhibition of the Society for Promoting the Fine Arts. His pictures in oil were very popular and attractive. He was elected many times the President of the Society. A native of Warsaw, Gerson was known principally as an historical painter. His work 'Copernicus' assured him a name among the modern artists of the Continent." He was also responsible for some good work in landscape.

THE April number of *Man* will contain an illustrated preliminary report of Mr. Randall-MacIver's excavations this winter at El Amrah, a village six miles south of Abydos. Two prehistoric cemeteries were explored, containing six or seven types of graves, among the contents of which were model boats of various kinds and also pottery cattle, thus making it clear that the "New Race" were a pastoral people also. Among the objects illustrated are weapons of war and the chase, dolls representing the people

themselves, who are figured with strongly curled hair, and specimens of basket-work. The most valuable find was an inscribed slate of a date considerably anterior to the first dynasty; this is by far the earliest known example of the use of hieroglyphs.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concert.
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The Popular Concerts.
QUEEN'S HALL.—Philharmonic Concert.

At the Crystal Palace Concert on Saturday a Concerto in A for violoncello and orchestra, Op. 10, by Herr Hugo Becker, was heard for the first time in England. It consists of only one movement, yet, owing to several changes of tempo, it is described in the programme-book as having "all the attributes of a concerto of the classical period, but within a more restricted space." It has also something of suite character, in that the third and fourth sections are based on the theme with which the work opens. The music is pleasing, and the skilful writing for the solo instrument very showy. Mr. Bertie Withers, the interpreter, has excellent technique, and played in good style. Herr Benno Schönberger performed the solo part of the 'Wanderer' Fantasie of Schubert as arranged by Liszt for pianoforte and orchestra. Mr. C. A. Barry justly speaks of this work as "one of the most important" pianoforte works of Schubert. In the Liszt version it loses much of its importance, but it is less fatiguing to play. Seeing, however, that the pianist has sufficient technical skill and sufficient strength of finger to present it in its original form, we regret that he should accept a version in which the combination of piano and orchestra is not organic, and one, moreover, in which the music of Schubert is often weakened by meretricious ornamentation. Herr Schönberger played with great spirit and refinement. An admirable performance of Sterndale Bennett's 'The Naiads' Overture was given under Mr. Manns's direction. Madame Marchesi, although not in good voice, sang the fine aria "Ah! mio cor," from Handel's 'Alcina,' with dramatic force and feeling.

Tschaikowsky's Quartet in E flat minor, Op. 30, performed for the first time at the Popular Concert last Saturday afternoon, was originally produced in London by Mr. Richard Gompertz at the second of his String Quartet Concerts on November 25th, 1896. It is a work of considerable interest, and M. Ysaye may be thanked for reviving it. It is the last of three quartets, and was written by the composer in 1876 as a tribute to Laub, the violinist; hence the Andante Funebre e Dolorosa which forms the third section. A mournful yet impassioned introductory Andante leads to an Allegro Moderato in which the thematic material is characteristic and the development ingenious and elaborate. The general style of the music, with its shifting moods, also elaborate polyphonic writing, reminds one strongly of Beethoven's later quartets; and at the time of composition Tschaikowsky, like his great predecessor, was ill at ease in mind as well as in body. The Allegretto Vivo e Scherzando has life and humour of caustic, Beethovenish grain, of which the repeatedly occurring *sforzando*

notes, struck successively by each of the four instruments, may well serve as illustration. The Andante is most impressive, and yet impression is perhaps created by manner rather than by matter. The opening phrase, with its forte chords, *con sordino*, and the clashing of its centre harmony against a persistent upper pedal, sounds terrifying, mysterious; and still more so when it is afterwards heard in louder tones. Soon there comes a plaintive yet soothing theme, first in the key of the relative major, and later on in that of the sub-mediant (with disguised notation). Then the primary section, in intensified yet restrained form, returns; to the throbbing notes assigned to the second violin there is now added a slowly moving pedal bass, with at times syncopations. The Coda is short but striking. In long-sustained, solemn-sounding chords the four instruments rise gradually upwards, typical, one might fancy, of the soul's flight heavenwards. But if so, why was not the final tonic chord major? The resolute Finale, with its frequent syncopated rhythm, its cheerfulness (tinged, however, with a certain morbidness), offers a striking contrast to the previous movement. This quartet, exceedingly well rendered, will, it is to be hoped, soon be repeated, for it is a work that will bear many hearings. The programme included Mozart's Sonata in A for pianoforte and violin; and with two such interpreters as Signor Busoni and M. Ysaye, the music was presented with skill and sympathy. After the storm and stress of the Russian the serene calm beauty and dignity of the older composer created a doubly strong impression. Madame Amy Sherwin was a successful vocalist.

On the following Monday evening the programme opened with Beethoven's Serenade Trio in D, Op. 8, interpreted *con amore* by Messrs. Ysaye, Van Hout, and J. Jacob. Beethoven's early works remain fresh, buoyant, hopeful, free from the marks which the struggles and sorrows of after years left upon his music, but which, it must be remembered, also gave to it its deep meaning and wonderful power. M. Ysaye played Bach's Prelude and Fugue in G minor with immense verve, but the effect of the fine performance was somewhat marred by a bad *chanterelle*. As a second solo the violinist gave Beethoven's Romance in G. He played it beautifully; at the same time we, with probably many others, should have preferred to hear the remaining movements of Bach's great suite. Mr. Van Hout performed a Locatelli Violin Sonata, transcribed for the viola, with pianoforte accompaniment by M. F. A. Gevaert, the well-known director of the Brussels Conservatoire. The music is thoroughly good, though scarcely one of the best specimens of the Italian composer. It was well rendered by the soloist: Miss Adela Verne played Schumann's 'Carnaval' in neat though somewhat colourless manner. Miss Biring, an Australian contralto singer, pupil of Herr Stockhausen, was heard in Handel's 'Ombra mai fu,' and in a song, 'Still wie die Nacht,' by Böhm. She has a pleasing voice, but the nervousness so natural at a *début* threw a certain coldness over her singing. The programme concluded with Mendelssohn's Quartet in D, Op. 44, No. 1.

The first piece on the programme of the

second Philharmonic Concert at Queen's Hall on Wednesday evening was an overture from Bach's orchestral Suite in C. And why not also the courante, the gavotte, the forlane (Venetian dance), the minuet, bourrée, and passepied? Does any conductor or pianist think of playing only a movement of a Beethoven symphony or sonata? Respect is due to Bach as much as to Beethoven, and what he joined together ought not to be divided. Herr Emil Sauer, after an absence of several years, made his appearance, and played for the first time in London a Concerto in E minor of his own composition for pianoforte and orchestra. The music is certainly effective of its kind, and gives evidence of great skill and of the art of writing music which will appeal to the general public, for it is full of tuneful melody; and it reminds one by turns of Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Chopin, or Grieg, yet without pointing to any special chapter and verse. Then, again, the writing for the instrument is extremely showy, after the manner of Liszt or Rubinstein; and as Herr Sauer, as is well known, is a virtuoso of great excellence, he satisfied his audience. The merit of the concerto, however, lies on the surface. It is not a work which will grow in interest. If Herr Sauer aimed at an ephemeral success, he has good reason to be satisfied with the result. He was vociferously encored, and the last movement was repeated. The second part of the programme commenced with Tschaikowsky's Fourth Symphony in F minor, the one which the composer himself conducted when he appeared at the Philharmonic Society in June, 1893. Mr. Cowen gave a careful reading of the work, but he did not seem quite to enter into the romantic spirit of the music; there was an occasional lack of intensity and of refinement. This we felt especially in the Andantino; the Scherzo, moreover, was hurried. Madame Marie Brema was the vocalist. She gave a fine rendering of Purcell's pathetic and dramatic song 'Mad Bess,' effectively orchestrated by Prof. Stanford. She afterwards sang Moniusko's 'Le Cosaque,' the pianoforte part scored also by Prof. Stanford; the simple accompaniment, however, is best as written by the composer. Madame Brema also sang 'Die Trommel gerühret' from Beethoven's 'Egmont,' but the music detached from its context is scarcely effective.

Musical Gossip.

'RIVAL POETS; OR, THE LOVE CHARM,' an operetta in two acts, written by W. Herbert Scott, composed by Edward German, was performed at St. George's Hall, principally by pupils of the Royal Academy of Music, last Thursday week. The work was originally produced in 1886; since then, however, it has been revised by the composer. The plot is a simple one, and the libretto not the worst of its kind. The music, bright and tuneful, contains many a clever touch, while the style generally shows clearly whom Mr. German took as his model. The accompaniments were ably played on two pianofortes, but it is a pity that the composer has never arranged the music for orchestra. With effective scoring and with some of the dialogue in the second act curtailed, the little piece would afford an hour's pleasant amusement. The performance was good; Mrs. Julia Franks was an excellent Suzanne. The

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work was given under the direction of Mr. Randegger.

At the London Ballad Concert held at Queen's Hall last Saturday afternoon an enjoyable performance was given of Madame Liza Lehmann's song-cycle 'The Daisy Chain.' The soloists included Miss Louise Dale, Miss Ada Crossley, Mr. Gregory Hast, and Mr. Denis O'Sullivan, all of whom sang the engaging numbers with full effect. With the two dainty soprano songs Miss Dale was very successful, and the humorous side of 'Mustard and Cress' was fully insisted upon by Mr. O'Sullivan. The work was received with great favour, and will evidently achieve popularity. Of the two new songs, the more pleasing was 'Cupid on the Clock' by Mr. Harry Farjeon, which is melodious and smoothly written. This vocal piece was agreeably interpreted by Mrs. Julia Franks. Madame Lillian Blauvelt, Miss Elsie Horne, and Messrs. Plunket Greene, Lane Wilson, and Spencer Dyke also took part in the concert.

An interesting paper, under the title 'A Seventeenth-Century View of Musical Education,' was read by Sir F. Bridge at the Musical Association on Tuesday afternoon. He gave various extracts from the quaint and characteristic 'Memoirs of Musick,' by the Hon. Roger North, showing what importance that enthusiastic amateur attached to the art itself, to the right practice of it, and to the serious cultivation of it in the home. The reading of these extracts was interspersed with brief appropriate, critical, and at times humorous comments.

Mr. ARNOLD DOLMETSCH gave the second concert of his Lent series at 85, Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square, on Tuesday evening. The first part of his programme was devoted to Italian and the second to French composers of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. 'La Follia,' with quaint, expressive, and dignified variations for violin and harpsichord by Arcangelo Corelli, proved exceedingly interesting, for the music of this great predecessor of Bach and Handel and master of the violin is but rarely heard. There was also a Fantasia for the violin, unaccompanied, by Nicola Matteis, whom, writes Evelyn in his 'Diary' in 1674, "I never heard mortal man exceed on that instrument." There is breadth and nobility in the music. Two pieces for the viola da gamba, composed by that most famous of gamba players Marin Marais, tastefully rendered by Miss Hélène Dolmetsch, gave great satisfaction. The music is not only quaint and clever, but full of true, noble feeling. Of harpsichord pieces there were Domenico Paradisi's delightful Sonata in A, and four of Rameau's characteristic little tone-pictures ('Le Rappel des Oiseaux,' 'Deux Rigaudons,' 'Musette,' and 'Tambourin'), all ably interpreted by Mrs. Elodie Dolmetsch. Mr. A. Dolmetsch played the violin, also the harpsichord, the lute, and the viola d'amore in accompaniments to various vocal and instrumental pieces.

MISS CONSTANCE BACHE concluded her series of lectures on Russian music at the King's College for Ladies, Kensington Square, on Wednesday afternoon. The last two afternoons were devoted to Borodin, Glazounov, Arensky, and Tchaikowsky, composers whose names and many of whose works are familiar to English musicians. Miss Gleeson White sang, among other numbers, 'Fleurs d'Amour,' 'Mon Chant est Amer,' and 'Dans ton Pays' of Borodin, and Tchaikowsky's 'Know'st Thou the Land?' 'Why so Pale are the Roses?' and the 'Air des Adieux,' one of the best numbers in the opera 'The Maid of Orleans,' produced at St. Petersburg in 1880. Miss Bache's survey of Russian music from a remote past up to the present day has been most interesting.

ACCORDING to *Le Ménestrel* of March 10th, the first night of Herr Siegfried Wagner's 'Herzog Wildfang' at Munich is fixed for next Tuesday, March 19th.

THE death is announced of Pierre Léonard Léopold Benoit, a Belgian composer, born at Harlebeke (West Flanders) in 1834. He studied at the Brussels Conservatoire, gaining a prize for composition in 1857. He then travelled, and in 1861 went to Paris in the vain hope of producing an opera. In 1864 he settled in Antwerp, and three years later founded a Flemish School of Music, which two years ago, with Government sanction, assumed the title of Conservatoire National. How far he succeeded in founding a school of national composers—for this was the aim of his life—is doubtful. He himself wrote many works, among others 'Lucifer,' Flemish oratorio (1866); 'Charlotte Corday,' incidental music to a drama; and 'Kinderkantsat,' performed at Brussels in 1885 by 1,400 children. The first two works named above have been heard in London. They show skill, but there is no depth in the music to justify the hope that it will live.

BELLONI, a distinguished polyglot, and at one time administrator of the Théâtre des Italiens, Paris, died recently at Reuil, at the ripe age of ninety-one. He was the intimate friend of Verdi, Vieuxtemps, and Liszt.

THE hundredth anniversary of the birth of Adolphe Frédéric Lindblad was celebrated last month at Stockholm, when the entire programme was devoted to his music. Lindblad composed the music for a great number of Swedish songs, and at times also the words; many of these were sung by Jenny Lind, who was one of his pupils.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN. Sunday Society Concert, 3.30; Sunday League, 7, Queen's Hall.
MON. Monday Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
TUES. Miss Elliot and Mr. Mackintosh's Recital, 3, Strand Rooms.
WED. Herr Sauer's Pianoforte Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
FRI. The London Trio Chamber Concert, 8.30, Royal Institute of Painters, Fecally.
SAT. Sunday Popular Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
— London Ballad Concert, 5, Queen's Hall.
— Orchestral Concert, 3.30, Crystal Palace.

DRAMA

THE SHAKESPEARE FIRST FOLIO.

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THE Delegates of the Clarendon Press of the University of Oxford have requested me to contribute a brief preface to the collytype facsimile of the copy of the Shakspeare First Folio, 1623, which they are preparing for publication from the copy belonging to the Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth. The Shakspeare First Folio is, from the literary point of view, the most valuable book in the world. Much uncertainty exists at present as to the precise number of original copies now extant. The preparation of the new facsimile by the Clarendon Press offers a favourable opportunity for making for the first time a census of the copies that now survive. Such a census of copies, if satisfactorily executed, would be of permanent value to bibliographers, collectors, and students, and it is hoped that present owners in all parts of the world will facilitate my endeavours to make the record accurate and exhaustive.

I shall, naturally, give chief prominence, in the published results of the census, to copies that are perfect at all points; but I hope to mention all copies, even those that are imperfect, about which information is furnished me.

I should be glad to hear from those owners with whom I am not at present in communication.

SIDNEY LEE.

Dramatic Gossip.

ON Wednesday Mr. Benson revived at the Comedy 'Richard II.,' in which he reappeared as the King. Mr. E. Lyall Swete was John of Gaunt; Mr. Alfred Brydson, Edmund of Langley; Mr. Frank Rodney, Bolingbroke; Mr. Oscar Asche, Thomas Mowbray; Miss Lillian Braithwaite, the Queen; and Miss Elsie Chester,

the Duchess of Gloucester. On the 27th inst. 'Hamlet' will succeed; and on the 15th to the 27th of April Mr. Benson will give his customary 'Stratford Festival,' in the course of which he will supply performances of six historical plays: 'King John,' 'Richard II.,' 'Henry IV.' (Part II.), 'Henry V.,' 'Henry VI.' (Part II.), and 'Richard III.'

MR. CLEMENT SCOTT is, it is said, the adapter of 'The Royal Necklace' of M. Pierre Berton, to be given by Mrs. Langtry at the Imperial, which house is to be opened on the 18th of April.

'SWEET AND TWENTY,' by Capt. Basil Hood, the forthcoming novelty at the Vaudeville, is in rehearsal, and the representations of 'Alice in Wonderland' have in consequence been confined to afternoons, except on Saturdays.

MRS. KENDAL was prevented by illness from appearing at the Princess of Wales's Theatre, Kennington, during the greater portion of last week. She is now happily recovered. It is pleasant to hear that she and Mr. Kendal have taken the St. James's Theatre for the autumn, during the absence of Mr. Alexander, and that they will appear in 'The Elder Miss Blossom,' 'The Likeness of the Night,' and Mr. Egerton Castle's play, 'The Secret Orchard,' which is mentioned below.

'PEG WOFFINGTON' has been withdrawn from the Prince of Wales's, to which house 'A Message from Mars,' which has witnessed its five hundredth representation, will shortly be transferred. When the run is over Mr. Hawtrey will produce the promised adaptation of 'The Man from Blankley's.' In addition to Mr. Hawtrey, the cast of this will comprise Misses Fanny Brough, M. A. Victor, Bella Pateman, and Jessie Bateman, Mr. Arthur Williams, and Mr. Henry Kemble.

THE season of Messrs. Waller and Mollison at the Lyceum concludes this evening, and the theatre will remain closed until the reappearance of Sir Henry Irving and Miss Ellen Terry. Messrs. Waller and Mollison will be seen at Manchester, and subsequently at Liverpool.

MISS LENA ASHWELL, who had been compelled by illness to relinquish temporarily her leading part in 'Mrs. Dane's Defence,' has fortunately been able to resume it.

'MAMMA,' Mr. Grundy's adaptation of 'Les Surprises du Divorce' of MM. Bisson and Mars, obtained a warm welcome upon its revival at the Criterion. With this piece Mrs. John Wood and Mr. Chudleigh opened, on September 24th, 1888, the reconstructed Court Theatre. It had, when given with a cast of remarkable strength, including Mr. John Hare, Mr. Charles Groves, Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mrs. John Wood, and Misses Rosina Filippi and Annie Hughes, a success of happy, if imperfectly fulfilled, augury. The performance on the revival is more robust, but perhaps even better suited to the average public. The view of modern managements is to make a piece "go"—that is, get out of it every particle of drollery possible. This view is carried out, and the Jack Pontifex of Mr. Arthur Bourchier, the Miles Henniker of Mr. George Giddens, and the Mrs. Jannaway of Mrs. Charles Calvert are uproariously funny. Miss Edith Chester plays now the heroine, a wife for whom divorce can have few more surprises, and Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson makes a pleasing and promising debut as her successor.

MR. ALEXANDER, at the Playgoers' Club on Sunday night, suggested the formation by the club of a reading committee, and promised that, if the members thereof selected a work which they could honestly recommend, he would mount it for afternoon production and give the profits to the Actors' Benevolent Fund. Mr. Tree also pledged himself to take part in the representation. There is a probability, it seems, that the actors may be held

to their bargain. The offer is meant as a means of facilitating approach to the stage by the untried dramatist.

On Thursday 'The Secret Orchard' of Mr. Egerton Castle was produced at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Reports as to the performance are not forthcoming at the moment of going to press. The scene is France, and the characters are almost all French or American. Mrs. Kendal plays the Duchess of Cluny; Mr. Kendal, Charles Henri Stuart; Mr. Kenneth Douglas, the Comte Victor de Lorme; and Mrs. Tapping, the Marquise de Lorme. The piece has for motto "In the Secret Orchard stands the Tree of Death," from 'The Wisdom of the Ages.'

THE death has been announced of M. Louis Adolphe Jaime, a somewhat prolific Parisian dramatist, the son of Ernest Jaime, also a playwright. Born in 1824, Jaime *fils*, as he was at first called, is best remembered as part author of 'Le Petit Faust,' 'Geneviève de Brabant,' 'La Timbale d'Argent,' and other libretti of comic opera. With Lambert Thiboust, Victor Sejour, Theodore Barrière, Decourcelle, and other coadjutors, he wrote endless dramas and burlesques, ballets, &c., few of which are now remembered.

'DER DORNENWEG,' by Felix Philippi, produced by the German company at the Comedy, is a play of more serious interest than most of the pieces by which it has been preceded. Its performance was chiefly noticeable for the stride forward made by Fraulein Sofia Dora, whose presentation of the heroine had much tenderness and pathos, as well as some genuine power. Herr George Warletzsch was good in a genially comic character.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—P. H. N.—A. S.—W. G. F.—H. M. G.—G. F. A.—received.
F. H.—Anonymous, so not used.
L. L. B.—G. S.—Not suitable for us.
No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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